

Virginia

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE

POULTRY PLAN OF WORK

for

Calendar Year 1954

<u>Major phases of project or subdivision of project covered</u>	<u>Name of Worker*</u>	<u>Percentage of time devoted to entire project by each worker</u>			
		<u>Moore</u>	<u>Dean</u>	<u>Bragg</u>	<u>Herrick</u>
Poultry Schools & Tours	H.L.Moore, L.W.Herrick	6			6
Training Poultry Leaders	H.L.Moore	7			
Quality Egg & Meat Program	H.L.Moore, L.W.Herrick	4			9
Laying Flock Demonstrations	L.W.Herrick				13
Assisting County Poultry Committees	L.W.Herrick				4
Preparing Inst. material, Radio, News & TV	L.W.Herrick				29
Farm Flock Improvement	A.L.Dean		28		
Grow Healthy Pullet	A.L.Dean		9		
4-H Club Activities	Moore,Dean,Bragg,Herrick	6	9	65	4
Misc. Admin., Corres., Etc.	Moore,Dean,Bragg,Herrick	34	46	35	35
Record of Performance	H.L.Moore	8			
Poultry Fed. & other Organizations	H.L.Moore	10			
College	H.L.Moore	25			
Rabbit Production & Wildlife Conv.	A.L.Dean		8		

Date submitted: MAR 9 1954 1954 Signed: Harry L. Moore
Project Leader

Date approved: MAR 9 1954 1954 Signed: W.H. Dunnington
Acting State Director of Extension

Date approved: APR 7 1954 1954 Signed: W.C. Ferguson
Director of Extension Work
U.S. Department of Agriculture

*If phases of project are divided between two or more workers, indicate assignment to each.

PLAN OF WORK FOR POULTRY SPECIALISTS - 1964

I. ANALYSIS OF THE POULTRY SITUATION

With the increasing human population, poultry is becoming more important as a source of food. In the nation poultry ranks third as a source of agricultural income. In Virginia for the past few years, the income from poultry has been first among the agricultural commodities. The preliminary estimate of the gross poultry income to the farmers of Virginia in 1963 was around 124 million dollars.

The most important single phase of the poultry industry in Virginia is egg production, with broilers ranking second and turkeys third. Virginia egg producers during the 1940-1962 period produced 38% more eggs per year than during the 1928-1932 period, with about 3% fewer layers. In actual value this increase in production amounted to \$1.98 per hen or over 13 million dollars to Virginia egg producers.

In spite of this increase and the total volume of eggs being produced in the State, the Virginia production is about 14 thousand dozen short of the hatchery and consumption needs of the State.

The number of broilers produced in Virginia more than doubled in the five year period 1947-1962, with more than 50 million being grown in the latter year. During this 5 year period the mortality decreased from 10.3% to 4.8%, the age at sale decreased from 13.6 to 10.8 weeks, even though the weight at sale decreased only .1 pound from 3.2 to 3.1 pounds. The feed conversion decreased from 4.4 to 3.5 per pound. The total of these efficiencies has amounted to 2.4¢ per pound reduction in the cost of producing broilers.

The number of turkeys raised in Virginia has increased from 1½ million in 1949 to over 5 million in 1962 when Virginia was second in the number of turkeys produced in the United States.

Even with the advances that have been made in all phases of poultry production in the State, there is still much to be done. According to the 1960 census the South Atlantic group of states, of which Virginia is one, made the smallest change in increasing the size of flocks under 200 birds than any other group of states. It is estimated that more than half of the poultry in the State average less than 200 layers. The mortality, the feed conversion, the rate of lay, and the general management practices in these areas are much below the average and in many instances are so low that the operation is not profitable.

Perhaps the outstanding improvement in the Poultry Extension Program in the past five years has been in the Junior Extension Program. In this field there has been a decrease in the number of 4-H Poultry projects. However the quality of the work has improved, and the percentage of the white club members has increased. According to census data there were over 435,000 boys and girls of 4-H Club age in the State. In 1962 12,000 girls carried 4-H Club projects, and 3,700 of these had a

In considering the program of poultry extension work for 1954 and the future, the Poultry Specialists had a conference with the District Agents, have interviewed quite a few county extension agents, and have met with the poultry committees in several counties. As a result of these conferences some of the projects that have been carried for several years have been changed or dropped entirely and new ones have been added. The major problems to be considered this year follow.

II. MAJOR PROBLEMS

1. The more efficient production of eggs, broilers, and turkeys.
2. The lowering of mortality among all ages and kinds of poultry.
3. The selection and care of the breeding flocks so as to produce more and better layers, broilers, and turkeys.
4. The production and maintenance of higher quality of poultry products.
5. More efficient handling and marketing of poultry products.
6. Maintaining in the minds of more flock owners the importance of good management practices.
7. Assisting the rabbit producers with their production and marketing problems.
8. Working with individuals, groups, and organizations interested in the conservation and better management of wildlife.

III. NUMERICAL GOALS FOR CALENDAR YEAR

The projects to be emphasized during the year are:

	Results <u>1953</u>	Goals <u>1954</u>
a. Poultry Schools..... (Number)	13	10
b. Training Poultry Leaders of Home Demonstration Clubs.....(No.Counties)	8	8
c. Laying Flock Demonstrators.....(No.Counties)	5	6
d. Quality Egg & Poul. Meat Program..(Specialist Days)	36	37
e. (1) Farm Flock Improvement Project (No.Counties)	25	24
(2) Farm Grow Healthy Pullet Project (No.Counties)	5	15
(3) Rabbit Production & Wildlife Conserv.(Spec.Days)	40	47
f. 4-H Club Work.....(Specialist Days)	240	272

Miscellaneous:

County Poultry Committees
Poultry Organizations

Miscellaneous (cont):

Supervise Home Record of Performance Work
Nutrition and Poultry Inspectors Schools
Prepare publicity articles and take care of correspondence

IV. METHODS OF PROCEDURE

a. Poultry Schools: Last year nine county and three district or area poultry schools were held in Virginia. A county poultry committee sponsored these schools in most instances. The poultry committee in seven individual counties has included a poultry school in the 1954 plan of work. The counties around Gloucester will sponsor an area school to be held somewhere near the center of the district. There has been some indication that the committees in the counties around Fredericksburg will also hold an area school. It is probable that there will be nine or ten all-day poultry schools held during the first month or two of this year.

It is likely that the same general plan will be followed this year as in the past, that is, two or more poultry specialists and a representative of the Agricultural Economics Department and a Poultry Pathologist will attend from V.P.I. Frequently someone representing the State Department of Agriculture and the State Poultry Federation appear on the program. An increasing number of programs include a discussion or a panel made up of local successful poultry people.

During the last month or two of 1953, poultry committees were organized in three new counties. In one of these, the committee has decided to have a night meeting. In another one, an afternoon poultry school is scheduled. It is likely that the third one will include a meeting early in the year.

The counties in the Winchester area have had a two-day poultry and turkey school for several years. The Frederick County Committee decided to substitute monthly, bi-monthly, or quarterly meetings for that school. The plan is for all the counties in the area to unite in a summer meeting at the Raymond Memorial Research Farm just across the line in West Virginia.

b. Training Poultry Leaders of Home Demonstration Clubs: The Home Demonstration Clubs in six counties, at their fall program-planning meeting, decided to have a poultry leader in each of their clubs. The Poultry Department was requested to prepare leader training material and meet with the leaders in each county twice during the year. The clubs in several other counties requested that this leader training material be supplied to some of the clubs in the county but did not request a Leader Training Meeting. The Leader Manuals will be prepared and each county will be supplied the number requested. The Leader Training Meetings will be held in all the counties requesting it.

At the training meeting the specialist will discuss the topic and explain the reference material for each of the following six monthly meetings. The leader then presents this briefly at each of the monthly meetings of her club.

c. Laying Flock Demonstrators: It is planned to have three laying flock demonstrators in each of six counties in 1954. These flock owners will be given a list of suggested management practices and requested to follow all, or as many as possible. The project starts with ordering the chicks and ends when the flock has laid 12 months. Records for this 18 month period are to be kept and submitted for summarizing at the end of the laying period. Records of different flock owners will be compared at a meeting and suggestions made for improving the management where practical. This meeting will necessarily be held in late fall or early winter. Cooperating poultrymen will be visited at least twice a year by the county agent and poultry specialist to make suggestions on better management practices. A summer tour will be planned to show other poultrymen in the county some of the improved practices.

d. Quality Egg and Poultry Meat Program: The poultry specialists will continue to work with the egg-grading stations and the poultry processing plants in encouraging the production and maintenance of quality in eggs and poultry meat. The revised State and Federal poultry meat inspection program should enable a much higher percentage of Virginia's dressed poultry to be Federal-State inspected. Barebacks in broilers have become an increasingly more serious problem the past three years. It has been carefully estimated that \$500,000 was lost last year in the Shenandoah Valley Area alone due to lowered quality from barebacks. Some time will be spent on this problem in the Valley area in 1954.

The important points that will be emphasized in this program are:

1. Feeding and management practices necessary to produce clean, high quality eggs and poultry meat.
2. The cooling and holding of eggs under proper conditions.
3. Frequent marketing through channels that recognize quality and are willing to pay for it.
4. The production and maintenance of quality in poultry meat from the producer to the consumer. Special attention will be given to barebacks in broilers in the Shenandoah Valley area.

e. Farm Flock Improvement: This project will be supervised by the Associate Extension Poultry Husbandman, A. L. Dean, and the farm or home agent in each of about 25 counties. The project will be supervised in a few counties by colored agents. The extension agent will be responsible for enrolling from 10 to 25 poultry flock owners in his county who are interested in having these visits and improving the poultry conditions.

Each farm flock enrolled in the project will be visited once or twice during the year. At these visits, the entire poultry unit will be inspected and scored. In scoring, consideration will be given to the general condition of the flock, its egg production, type and condition of the poultry houses and equipment, the feed and method of feeding. At the first visit and after scoring, suggestions for improvement will be made and the owner will be encouraged to keep a record on his flock, especially the daily record of the number of eggs laid.

Culling demonstrations, tours, or group meetings will be encouraged in each county. Suitable awards may be offered in counties where conditions warrant. Extension agents, and the flock owners will be urged to take photographs of the buildings, the equipment, or flock at the beginning and after the improvements have been made. These will be useful in giving the improvement publicity and encouraging other flock owners to improve the management of their flocks.

In some of the counties where this work is supervised by white Extension workers, the Grow Healthy Pullet project will be carried with some of the demonstrators.

e.(2) Farm Grow Healthy Pullet Project: This Grow Healthy Pullet Project will be carried in about 15 counties under the supervision of the white farm or home agent. As in the past, some of the persons enrolled in the Poultry Improvement Project will want to receive suggestions on growing better pullets and will be enrolled. The purpose of this work will be to encourage the production of better pullets at lower costs and with less mortality.

It is planned to enroll only flock owners who will start with at least 200 well-bred pullet chicks. The importance of starting these early and getting them from good hatcheries, preferably in Virginia, will be emphasized. 4-H Club members who are interested, and who will meet the requirements, will be encouraged to enroll.

Each cooperator will be requested to keep a record on the mortality of the flock, and be encouraged to keep a complete record of the costs of the ready-to-lay pullet. The use of recognized good rearing practices will be encouraged. These include providing a good range, a good satisfactory range shelter or roosting shed, and good feeding practices.

Publicity, including photographs and write-ups will be encouraged, and it is planned that tours will be arranged to those demonstrators growing unusually good pullets. The exhibiting of good pullets at community or county fairs will be encouraged.

e.(3)(a) Rabbit Production: The Associate Poultry Husbandman will continue to work with the rabbit producers in their production and marketing problems during the year. It is expected that there will be 4-H Rabbit Club members in 80 or more counties of the State. Suggestions for the management and the marketing of these products will be prepared and distributed through the county extension workers.

There has been considerable interest, among the rabbit growers, in local rabbit associations. Assistance will be given these groups in their organizing, production, and marketing problems whenever possible. For the past two years there has been a rabbit educational program in connection with the Institute of Rural Affairs. It is expected that some such meeting will be held during the summer this year, either at the College or in some other section of the State. The Extension workers will cooperate with the officers of the rabbit organizations in preparing and conducting the program for such a meeting.

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The production of rabbit meat will be encouraged in communities where there is sufficient interest and where a suitable market can be secured.

A. L. Dean plans to visit rabbit producers in some of the European countries during the late summer when he visits these countries after attending the World's Poultry Congress in Scotland.

e.(3)(b) Wildlife Conservation: Several years ago, one-sixth of the time A. L. Dean was designated to Wildlife Conservation work. His activities along this line this year will be to teach Wildlife Conservation at 4-H Camps, in 4-H Club meetings, and with adult and junior community and county meetings whenever there is an opportunity.

The instruction at the camps will include a study of the wildlife in the area in which the camp is located, handicraft, and Indian lore. Colored slides and wild bird song records will be used to make the study more interesting and practical.

Publicity articles on Wildlife Conservation will be prepared and made available to extension workers and publications. Work plans of wildlife houses and feeders will be developed if possible. Educational exhibits of this equipment will be encouraged at camps, district meetings, schools, and at county and community fairs.

f. 4-H Club Work: Denver D. Bragg, the 4-H Poultry Club Specialist, will have general supervision of the 4-H activities in the State during the year. His analysis of the situation and detailed plan for carrying on poultry club activities is given on the following pages. Each of the other poultry specialists however, plan to devote some time to 4-H and other junior poultry activities. All poultry specialists will probably assist with poultry instructions at the 4-H Short Course and with judging activities at certain 4-H fairs or achievement days. A. L. Dean will supervise most of the 4-H Rabbit Club projects and will assist in giving instructions in poultry and wildlife subjects at special meetings; camps and short courses.

Analysis of Situation

There has been a general trend toward larger and fewer 4-H poultry projects in Virginia since 1940. The decrease in poultry project enrollment however, especially in recent years, has been much greater among colored than among white club members. The colored poultry club enrollment decreased about 36% from 1948 to 1953 while the white poultry club enrollment decreased only about 8% during this period. This decrease in enrollment may be partially due to (1) the small margin of profit per bird and an increase in the amount of capital required for an economical size project; (2) increased interest among county workers and club members in those projects that can be completed to a large extent in school or at club meetings with less financial risk and time involved on the part of those concerned; and (3) the lack of poultry knowledge and the rapid turnover of workers carrying on the county club program.

Members of the poultry department met with District Agents and administrative personnel this past fall and suggested that one-day district poultry schools for county workers be conducted in as many districts as possible this year. It is hoped that such a school will materialize in at least two or three districts. Generally speaking, there is still a great need for more assistance from local club leaders and project leaders. The securing, training, and holding of these leaders continues to be quite a problem in most counties. There also seems to be a need for better acquainting parents with the 4-H program and the requirements of the various projects.

This past year, poultry industry leaders seem to have become more interested in the State 4-H poultry program; the number of club members participating in Junior judging and demonstration activities continued to increase; there was more interest and larger participation in week-end poultry camps and poultry classes at the State 4-H Short Course; and a general increase in the size of projects.

Efforts will be made this year to stop the downward trend in poultry club enrollment and continue improvement of county poultry club programs and the development of better quality projects. A special effort will be made to give more poultry training to county extension workers and local club leaders and promote more interest among adult groups in poultry club activities.

Major Problems

1. To better inform county workers concerning poultry production practices and arouse more interest among them for a better poultry club program.
2. To secure more and better assistance from local 4-H Club leaders and poultry project leaders.
3. To maintain high project work standards and develop a greater desire among club members and parents for the carrying on and completion of quality poultry projects.
4. To compete with certain other non-basic agricultural projects which require less time, less expense, and little or no risk on the part of the club member and/or others concerned.

Goals for the Year

<u>Project or Activity</u>	<u>Results 1953</u>	<u>Goals 1954</u>
1. County 4-H Poultry Field Days, and the visiting and scoring of projects. (No. of field days and No. of projects visited and scored.)	13(606)	15(600)

Goals for the Year (cont')

<u>Project or Activity</u>	Results	Goals
	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
2. Poultry Judging and Demonstration Activities. (No. counties giving club members special poultry judging or demonstration training, and number of meetings conducted by club specialist.)	32(48)	32(40)
3. Poultry instruction at 4-H poultry schools, club, camp and short course meetings. (No. meetings at which the 4-H Poultry Specialist plans to give instruction.)	10	36
4. Training meetings for co-workers and/or local 4-H Club leaders and poultry project leaders.(No. meetings) 5.		12
5. Animated Poultry News Letter. (No. copies distributed each month.)	4200	4200
6. Special projects and contests:		
a. Poultrymen of Tomorrow Contest (two yr. project) (No. Club Members participating)	220	360
b. Special Breeding and Rearing or Breeding Flock Projects. (No. counties)	9	10
c. District or Area Junior Chicken of Tomorrow Contests.(No. Club Members participating)	-	40
7. Miscellaneous Poultry Activities		
a.airs, conferences, program planning activities, adult schools, demonstrations, farm or home visits, etc. (No. specialist's days)	45	43
b. General correspondence, reports, preparation teaching material, radio talks, and new articles, and other routine office work.(No. specialist's days)	43 $\frac{1}{2}$	49

Method of Procedure

1. County 4-H Poultry Field Days and The Visiting and Scoring of Projects:
The 4-H Poultry Specialist will make a special effort to organize and assist with the conducting of county 4-H Poultry Field Days in at least 15 counties. He will also try to make spot-check visits to a few projects in 5 or 6 other counties to give advice to club members and obtain first hand information concerning the type and quality of the 4-H poultry project at the "grass roots". In conducting a county 4-H Poultry Field Day, the 4-H Poultry Specialist, county extension workers,

and a selected group of local leaders get together and visit and score all of the 4-H Poultry projects in the county on a certain day, and give publicity and awards to the club members having the highest scores. In many instances, the day will end with a glamorized meeting of poultry club members, leaders, and parents where awards are presented and entertainment and refreshments provided.

It is felt that the visiting and scoring of 4-H poultry projects in the field does much to stimulate interest and bring about improvements in the club members enterprise and that all projects should be visited and scored at least once each year. If county extension workers do not have time to make such visits, they should then be made by local leaders, councilmen, or other persons interested in club work. Project scoring sheets are available from the State office for use in connection with the field scoring of 4-H poultry projects.

2. Poultry Judging and Demonstration Activities: Special 4-H poultry judging and/or poultry demonstration assistance will be provided for 30 to 35 counties again this year. Poultry judging and demonstration training meetings will be conducted, and assistance given with the setting up of classes, etc., for the training of poultry judging, poultry product demonstration, and egg-grading teams in most of the counties that carry on this type of poultry club work. Meetings will be conducted on a bi- or tri-county basis wherever possible and will include in some instances FFA groups. It is expected that about 40 poultry judging or demonstration training meetings will be conducted in the State during the year.

The Specialist will set up and conduct 5 district poultry judging contests, a State poultry judging contest, and a State poultry demonstration and egg-grading contest. He will also assist with the training of State teams for inter-state competition, and will assist with the interstate poultry judging contest held in connection with the Atlantic Rural Exposition.

3. Poultry Instruction at 4-H Poultry Schools, Clubs, Camp, or Short Course Meetings: The 4-H Poultry Specialist will carry on and assist with poultry instruction at a few regular 4-H Club meetings, 8 or 10 county 4-H Poultry Schools, the special week-end camps, and at the State 4-H Short Course. At the special week-end poultry camps, instruction will be given to poultry club members from three or more counties and the meetings, (not meals and lodging accommodations) will be open to parents, FFA members, and other interested persons. A crowing contest, egg throwing, and other such recreational activities will generally be included as part of the program. The instruction given will generally consist of timely illustrated lectures and/or demonstrations. Live birds, model poultry equipment, slides, and movies and other visual aids will be used whenever possible. The county poultry schools will in most instances consist of both classroom instruction and instruction in the field where a club member or an adult is putting into practice recommended production practices.

4. Training Meetings for County Workers and/or Local 4-H Club Leaders and Poultry Project Leaders: An effort will be made this year to hold one-day District poultry schools or training meetings for county workers in each of two or three extension districts, and to hold training meetings for local club leaders

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and poultry project leaders in as many counties in the State as possible. At the one-day district poultry schools, county personnel, especially new agents and agents lacking poultry training, will probably be given latest information on one or two specific items dealing with production practices and participate in a laboratory work dealing with the grading and judging of poultry and eggs. At the local leaders meetings, the 4-H poultry specialist will distribute and go over 4-H Poultry Leader Manuals containing monthly lesson outlines, judging and demonstration circulars and other subject-matter information, and will urge the leaders to encourage and assist their club members in every way they can to get them to carry on and complete a quality poultry project. In some instances, an effort will be made to hold a leader training meeting in connection with or just prior to the county 4-H Poultry Field days.

5. Animated Poultry News Letter: An animated monthly news letter called "Hints for Tomorrow's Poultrymen" will be prepared and sent to county workers for distribution to their poultry club members. It is expected that from 80 to 90 counties will request the letter and about 4200 copies will be distributed monthly.

6. Special Projects and Contests:

(a) **Poultryman of Tomorrow Contest:** An attempt will be made to start a third two-year Poultryman of Tomorrow Contest in the State this year. The purpose of the contest is to encourage club members to follow better poultry production practices and stay in club work for a longer period of time. The contest started in 1950 and was completed for a second time in 1953.

Awards are based on project work and extracurricular poultry club activities such as judging, demonstration, etc. The club member's project must be visited and scored in the field at least once each year. This field score plus the score he receives on his record books and extracurricular poultry club activities make up his total score for the year. The club member in each county who has the highest total score for this two-year period will be declared the county winner. County winners will compete for district awards, and district winners will compete for State awards.

The Kroger Company, who is sponsoring the project, will probably give \$5 awards to the county winners, \$20 to district winners, and \$100 to the State winner, with ribbons and smaller awards to the club members who place second and third in the contest.

(b) **Special Brooding and Rearing or Breeding Flock Projects:** Special 4-H Brooding & Rearing or Breeding Flock projects will be carried on in 10 or 11 counties in the State. Most of these projects will be sponsored by local hatcheries, banks, stores, or civic organizations; however, in one or two counties near Richmond the projects will be sponsored by Sears, Roebuck Foundation. In carrying on the projects the sponsor furnishes a certain number of chicks to several 4-H Club members within the county. The club member raises the chicks and returns to a county committee a certain amount of money or a certain number of birds when the first cockerels are sold, to pay for the chicks received.

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In some instances where the resulting pullets are kept as layers the club member is also required to make an exhibit of his birds at a county or district fair. Most club members receive a price discount on their chicks, especially those in the special Breeding Flock project and those who carry out agreements to do certain things to improve or enlarge their projects. The money returned or the money received from the sale of birds returned is used to help set up the project in the county again another year or to purchase feed and equipment prizes for those doing the best jobs. Club members in the Brooding and Rearing projects are encouraged and in most cases do keep the resulting pullets as layers, unless, they are part of a strictly broiler project. The club members in most cases are given assistance in the culling of their pullets and the selection of their breeding or laying flocks.

The 4-H poultry specialist will help to enlarge and keep going the Brooding and Rearing projects that have already been started and will assist with the setting-up of new projects in 2 or 3 counties. An effort will also be made to enlarge the Special Breeding Flock Project in Nottoway County and start a similar project if possible in another county.

(c) District or Area Junior Chicken of Tomorrow Contests: An attempt will be made to conduct Junior Chicken of Tomorrow Contests in two or three sections of the State this year - probably in the Roanoke and Eastern Shore and/or Northern Neck areas and in Greenville County. The purpose of the project is to stimulate poultry interest among both club members and adults, give recognition to club members that follow better feeding and management practices, and possibly indicate some of the breeding flocks that are producing the better broiler chicks.

The project will be open to both 4-H and WFA members and will last approximately 10 weeks. Each entry in the contest will consist of exactly 100 straight-run chicks which will be wing-banded at the hatchery with official contest bands. A contestant may make as many entries as he pleases so long as each entry is of a different variety, breed, or cross-breed of chicken. He may also purchase and raise other chicks along with his entry in order to fill his house and give him an economical size unit. Chicks must come from eggs produced by Virginia hatchery flocks but can come from a cooperating hatchery of the contestants choice. The hatcheryman or some other interested person will pay a \$2 entry fee for each individual entry. At least one inspection will be made of the entry in the field during the growing period. On a designated date each contestant will bring 16 live cockerels to a dressing plant where they will be weighed, dressed, judged on such factors as feathering, fleshing, weight, and conformation, etc., displayed either at the plant or some other appropriate place and then sold. Awards will be provided from fees paid by hatcherymen or other individuals at time chicks are purchased.

7. Miscellaneous Poultry Activities of Club Specialist:

(a) About 45 days will probably be spent this year assisting with schools, conferences, planning activities, adult demonstrations, farm or home visits, etc.

(b) Approximately 40 days will be devoted to general correspondence, reports, preparation of teaching material, radio talks and news articles, and other routine office work.

Miscellaneous:

Miscellaneous projects that will be worked on during the year include county poultry committees, poultry organizations, supervising Home Record of Performance, assisting with Nutrition and Poultry Inspectors' School, and preparing publicity articles, and taking care of correspondence.

The specialists have been working with the poultry committees in several counties. It has been found that more effective educational work is being done in those counties with active poultry committees. This year, emphasis is being placed on working more closely with the active committees and cooperating with the agent in organizing a poultry committee in other counties wherever sufficient interest can be aroused. It is planned to organize committees in at least three counties where there has been no poultry committee.

The specialists will continue to work closely with other county, area, and State poultry groups and organizations. The Department will continue to supervise the Home Record of Performance breeding program as a part of the poultry improvement program of the State.

V. COOPERATION

<u>NAME OF AGENCY</u>	<u>Assistance to be Given</u>	<u>Assistance to be Received</u>
State Dept. of Agri.	Holding a training school for poultry inspectors. Assisting in giving information on the grading and candling of eggs.	Joint meetings to discuss the grading and candling of eggs, the grading of poultry products, and the establishment of grading stations.
Specialists from the U.S.D.A.	Furnish any information requested relative to poultry statistics and situation within the State.	Specialists from the production, marketing, and pathology sections for district & State meetings.
Other Departments of the Agricultural College	All information relative to poultry, when and as requested.	Information on poultry buildings, marketing, and similar lines, when needed.

VI. PUBLICATIONS, VISUAL AND OTHER TEACHING AIDS

Each year some time is spent obtaining and preparing instructional material as Kodachrome slides for use at meetings and black-and-white pictures for publicity. In 1954, more time will be spent in obtaining, labeling, filing, and using a more nearly complete set of slides and pictures to show all phases of turkey and poultry production. It is hoped to present more and better television shows with the aid of these pictures and to make more use of pictures in news articles.

It is being found that the flannel board is of assistance in holding the interest of the group and in getting the people to grasp the point under

discussion. More time will be spent this year in preparing material for, and using the flannel board in getting information across to the audience.

Specially prepared mimeographed material will be sent to cooperators in the various fields. Similar material, bulletins, and plans for poultry buildings will be distributed upon request. Mimeographed material and bulletins prepared and printed by the U.S.D.A. will continue to be used.

Models of poultry buildings suitable for Virginia conditions are used in many of the junior meetings and in the majority of the adult schools. Charts illustrating breed type, production, and health are used in meetings by the specialists.

CALENDAR OF POULTRY EXTENSION WORK FOR HARRY L. MOORE

DURING 1954

	Total Days	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
Poultry Schools	18	-	5	9	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Quality Egg	12	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	4	3	-	-	-
4-H Club and other Junior work	18	-	1	1	2	2	-	5	2	2	1	1	1
Leader Training	19	1	5	3	8	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	2
Record of Perfor- mance	22	1	1	2	3	1	2	1	2	2	3	2	2
Poultry Federation & other organiza- tions	29	2	3	2	3	2	2	1	2	2	4	4	2
Administrative, Correspondence, & Miscellaneous	96	10	8	6	8	7	6	4	9	10	10	9	9
College	71	6	2	1	5	11	10	8	1	1	7	10	9
	<hr/> 285	<hr/> 20	<hr/> 25	<hr/> 24	<hr/> 25	<hr/> 24	<hr/> 26	<hr/> 25	<hr/> 20	<hr/> 20	<hr/> 25	<hr/> 26	<hr/> 25

CALENDAR OF POULTRY EXTENSION WORK FOR LEE W. HERRICK, JR.

DURING 1954

	Total												
	Days	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
Quality Egg and Poultry Meat Program	25	2	2	1	1	2	3	4	5	2	2	1	-
A-H Program	12	-	-	1	-	1	1	5	1	1	2	-	-
Poultry Schools	14	-	4	5	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poultry Tours	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	-
Obtaining & Preparing Instructional Material Visual Aids, etc.	32	1	1	2	5	4	4	3	2	2	3	3	2
Preparing news articles, radio and T.V. script, talks, etc.	50	3	4	4	5	4	4	5	5	4	4	4	4
Miscellaneous Office Correspondence, routine office, conferences, staff meetings, meetings at colleges, etc.	64	10	5	2	3	3	4	3	2	4	8	10	10
Miscellaneous Field General farm visits, travel, out-of-state meetings	57	1	4	4	4	3	4	2	2	3	4	4	2
Assisting county poultry Committee	12	2	2	2	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	1	1
Laying Flock Demonstrations	37	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4
	287	22	25	24	25	22	25	26	23	20	26	26	23

CALENDAR OF POULTRY EXTENSION WORK FOR A. LAWRENCE DEAN

DURING 1954

	Total												
	Days	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
Farm Poultry Unit Improvement Project	80	10	10	5	5	5	5	5	-	5	10	10	10
Grow Healthy Chick Pullet Project	25	-	-	5	5	10	-	-	-	-	5	-	-
4-H Wildlife, Poultry, Rabbit Projects	25	-	-	3	3	4	4	3	2	3	3	-	-
Adult Wildlife and Rabbit Work	25	-	3	4	3	4	3	2	2	-	2	2	-
Miscellaneous Poultry Work	20	-	-	-	-	2	3	3	2	-	5	5	-
Office Work	110	10	12	8	9	-	10	12	17	12	-	8	12
	285	20	25	25	25	25	25	25	23	20	25	25	22

CALENDAR OF POULTRY EXTENSION WORK FOR DENVER D. BRAGG

DURING 1954

Total Days	Total												
	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	
County 4-H Field Days and the visiting and scoring projects	44	-	-	-	-	1	3	9	8	13	5	3	2
Poultry Instruction at 4-H Poultry Schools, Camp, and Short Course meetings	33	-	2	4	4	4	3	6	5	3	-	1	1
Training meetings for county workers &/or local 4-H Club leaders and poultry project leaders	14	1	2	2	3	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Special Projects & Contests													
(a) Poultrymen of Tomorrow Contest	8	1	3	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Special Breeding & Rearing or Breeding Flock Projects	14	1	2	3	2	1	2	-	-	1	1	1	-
(c) Area or District Junior Chicken of Tomorrow Contest	17	1	2	2	3	1	6	2	-	-	-	-	-
Poultry Judging & Demonstration Activities	51	4	5	5	6	8	8	5	-	-	2	5	3
Animated Poultry News Letter	11	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	-	1	2	1	1
Misc. Poultry Activities of club specialist: (a) Fairs, conferences, program planning activities, adult schools, dem. farm and home visits etc.	43	5	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	4	9	7	7
(b) General correspondence, reports, pre. of teaching mat., news articles, radio talks other routine office work	49	8	6	4	4	3	2	2	2	3	4	5	6
	284	22	26	24	27	22	26	26	18	25	23	23	22

ANNUAL REPORT
of
POULTRY Extension Work in VIRGINIA
for
1954
by

Harry L. Moore	Poultry Husbandman
A. Lawrence Dean	Asso. Ext. Poultry Husbandman
Denver D. Bragg	Asso. Ext. Poultry Husbandman
Lee W. Herrick, Jr.	Asso. Ext. Poultry Husbandman

Three of these men devoted full time to Extension work during 1954 and one devoted part time.

Harry L. Moore has devoted one-fourth time to college activities and three-fourths to Extension work. He has been responsible for most of the administrative duties, the Record of Performance work, most of the adult Leader Training work and has assisted with the general Extension program.

A. Lawrence Dean has been responsible for the Farm Flock Improvement, the Grow Healthy Pullet, the Rabbit Production, and the Wildlife Conservation programs. He has also assisted with 4-H Club work and other activities.

Denver D. Bragg has been largely responsible for planning and carrying out the 4-H and other youth programs. He has also assisted with the poultry schools and other adult activities.

Lee W. Herrick, Jr., has been responsible for the Laying Flock Demonstrations has assisted the county poultry committees, has done most of the Turkey Extension work and has helped with most of the television shows and helped with the 4-H program.

In carrying on the Extension work this year, the specialists have not been confined to any given area. Since most of the commercial turkey work and much of the commercial broiler and egg production is located in the Valley and Northeastern Virginia, L. W. Herrick has devoted more of his time to these sections; however, each specialist has been largely responsible for certain projects and has worked in the areas where these projects were carried. In this way the county extension workers as well as the poultry get the ideas of each of the specialists and the specialists have a broad view of the poultry problems of the State.

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III. RESULTS OR ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Considerable thought was given to the preparation of the Plan of Work by each poultry specialist last December. After each one had decided upon his projects and planned the method of carrying them out, he discussed them with the project leader and sometimes with other specialists. During the year, frequent conferences were held between the individual responsible for a particular project and the project leader. Several times during the year the four specialists met and discussed the work and when it was thought necessary, alterations were made in the procedure of carrying on the program.

While one, or in some cases two, specialists were responsible for carrying out each project, we did not hesitate to ask the other man to help whenever it was felt that their help was needed. This has been particularly true of the 4-H program. While Denver Bragg was largely responsible for planning and carrying out the junior program, each of the other three specialists have assisted with this work, especially with the District and State Short Courses and with the weekend camps. A. L. Dean has done most of the work with the 4-H Rabbit Club members.

In the following discussion of each of the projects, the goals set up at the first of the year and the success in reaching these goals are mentioned briefly in the first paragraph or two.

A. POULTRY SCHOOLS:

1. Purpose: For several years the Virginia Extension workers have encouraged commodity schools as a means of bringing up-to-date information to more farm people. Poultry schools have been held in many of the commercial poultry raising counties for several years. The counties having active poultry committees nearly always include a school in their year's program of work. Members of the Poultry Department have encouraged this since we are able to get more varied information to a larger number of people than through any other method.
2. Method:

<u>Goals</u>	<u>Goals Achieved</u>
Hold ten county or district poultry schools.	Ten county and two district schools were held the first of the year. Two meetings with tours were held during the summer.

At most of the county poultry committee meetings held in the fall or early winter, a poultry school was included in the program of work for the year. In several counties, a committee was appointed to work up the program for the

school and handle the details in connection with the meeting. In counties not having well organized poultry councils, the county extension workers consulted with some of the people interested in poultry and decided to hold a poultry school.

Most of the county poultry committees arrange their program planning meetings so that a poultry specialist can be present. This specialist usually assists in deciding upon the most suitable date and in some instances helps to prepare the program.

The county committee in 7 counties met during the early part of the year and decided to have a poultry school. In five other counties, the county extension workers, after consulting with some of their poultry producers, scheduled a poultry school. In most instances, these schools were scheduled for a full day, the program beginning about 9:30 or 10:00 and closing around 3:00 or 3:30. In some counties, it was thought advisable this year to have the program for just half a day and in one or two counties, the meeting was held at night. At all of the schools, two or more people appear on the program. (Where only one person attends, we usually consider this just a poultry meeting.) One or two representatives from the Poultry Department usually appear on the program. Frequently one of the poultry pathologists was asked to attend also. Personnel from the Agricultural Economics Department and from the State Department of Agriculture were invited to help with the schools in several counties. It is becoming increasingly popular to schedule a local poultry raiser on the program. These usually present some very interesting data and facts on their own poultry enterprise.

In the early part of this year, county poultry schools were held in ten counties. The three counties around Fredericksburg and the three or four counties around Gloucester went together and had an area school. These are usually better attended and a greater variety of speakers appear on the program. The best attended school this year was held in Harrisonburg with about 100 people in attendance.

The Gloucester area and three other individual counties held a joint meeting and tour in July or August. The program at these consisted of one or two talks followed by visits to several poultry enterprises.

B. TRAINING POULTRY LEADERS OF HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUBS:

1. Purpose: The 1950 Census of the United States Department of Agriculture shows that 84 percent of the 151,000 farms in Virginia reported as having some poultry in 1949. These figures further show that 96 percent of the farms reporting chickens had less than 200 potential layers on hand the first of the year. The farm data also shows that 68.5 percent of the potential layers on hand the first of the year were in these flocks of less than 200 birds. These figures

show that the vast majority of the laying flocks in the State contain less than 200 birds. This means that on the majority of Virginia farms the housewife and the children do most of the work in caring for the chickens.

It is being recognized more and more that the best way of getting information and improved practices carried out in the home is through the Home Demonstration Clubs. During World War II when so much emphasis was placed on growing more food, more than forty of the counties in Virginia used the Home Demonstration Club Leader System to get better poultry information to the farm women. The clubs in quite a few of the counties were so well pleased with this program that they have continued it. The extension poultrymen have been well pleased with the results and have encouraged this project as one of the means of getting better poultry information to the average or small size flock owner.

2. Method:

Goals
To prepare material and train the Poultry Leaders of the Demonstration Clubs in eight counties.

Goals Achieved
Outlines and reference material were prepared and given the Poultry Leaders of the Home Demonstration Clubs in eleven counties. Leader-training meetings were held in eight of these.

In making their program of work for 1954, the majority of the Home Demonstration Clubs in eleven counties selected poultry as one of their projects. A poultry leader was selected in each of these clubs, and this leader was responsible for securing information on poultry and presenting it at each of the club meetings or at a time agreed upon. The home demonstration agents, through their district agents, requested the assistance of the poultry specialists in preparing the material for the leaders and, when requested, to hold meetings and train these leaders.

The specialists prepared leader manuals which consisted of an outline and a brief discussion of one or more topics most suitable for each of the twelve months. On each of these topics additional references were given to general poultry bulletins that were included as a part of the manual. The material for the first six months and the reference bulletins were bound together in a folder. Eight of the counties requested that a poultry specialist meet with the poultry leaders and go over the material for each of the first six months. The agents in the other counties requested that these manuals be sent to them and they in turn would give them to the poultry leader in each club.

The material for the last six months was prepared and in May or early June a second leader-training meeting was held in the counties requesting it.

Likewise, the material was distributed through the agent in the counties where no meeting was held.

Several counties of the State have requested this type of assistance for several years and some of the home agents use it as a basis for most of the poultry work done with their club members. This year, in two of the eight counties, the meetings were open to the public and general timely poultry information was discussed. In two other counties the second meeting included a tour to the homes of one or more of the poultry leaders where a poultry culling demonstration was given. In Wythe County, as a result of this project, five culling demonstrations were held and 51 Home Demonstration Club members were shown how to tell the differences between the good and poor layers.

There were about 200 Home Demonstration Clubs in the eleven counties. The membership of the Home Demonstration Clubs in Virginia in 1954 averaged about 25 members. This made a total of 5,000 club members who were given an opportunity to receive instruction or suggestions on some phase of poultry during the year.

C. LAYING FLOCK DEMONSTRATIONS: (Lee W. Herrick, Jr.)

1. Purpose: To help farmers with a laying flock make more money from their time and money invested by following the best poultry management practices and keeping records.

2. Methods:

Goals

To have eighteen laying flock demonstrations in six counties.

Goals Achieved

There were twenty-three cooperators enrolled in six counties. At annual report time, twelve records on "cost of producing pullets" and two records on laying flock expenses and receipts had been received from three counties, and more will probably be received. Also two records on cost of producing pullets and one record on laying flock receipts and expenses in 1953 were received from two counties.

Need for Project: In 1952, Rappahannock County Agent W. H. Lyles asked for a definite outline of good poultry management practices that would increase his producers' income with no additional labor. The county had an egg marketing cooperative which sold eggs to a Washington, D.C., buyer on a graded basis and received a premium over top market price for Grade A eggs. In fact, several farmers have told us that they received from 6 to 10 cents per dozen

more for their eggs sold through the cooperative than to the hucksters who used to pick up their eggs. However, the cooperative's volume was so small that it was at a "break-even" point, and it was difficult for the hauler to make a profit and stay in business.

Most of the producers had small flocks of 100 to 400 layers. Many of them were using one or more bad management practices, most frequent of which were (1) using birds bred for meat production for producing table eggs, (2) getting chicks so late in the spring that by the time the pullets came into production in October or November they had missed the best egg market, (3) poor feeding, some having the old idea that if the birds are not laying, they are not going to buy mash for them, and (4) failure to use lights in the fall and winter.

County Agent Lyne wanted a production program outlined that would improve the income of these producers, increase the volume of eggs produced, and put the marketing cooperative on a more sound basis with a larger volume. We recognized that the larger flocks are often more profitable due to the fact that the producer has more capital invested in them and he cannot afford to neglect them, but we also felt that a small flock should be just as profitable, on a per bird basis, for those producers who would give close attention to a few of the basic principles of good management. County Agent Lyne also felt that table egg production was one enterprise that some farmers in his county could add to improve their farm income.

Other counties have similar problems, except that they do not have an egg marketing cooperative, and in 1954, six county agents worked on the project with the idea of demonstrating to farmers that there is a profit in egg production when correct practices are followed. In 1953, several agents wanted to include hatchery supply flocks, and the mimeographed management outline was changed slightly to include them.

Procedure: The agents who wished to conduct this project enrolled several farmers who were anxious to make a larger profit from their flock and were willing to change some of the management practices necessary to increase their profits. These cooperators were visited by the agent and poultry specialist. The project was described, and the mimeographed suggested management practices and record blanks given to them. The cooperators were visited three or four times during the year. At each visit their current problems were discussed, new ideas coming to the attention of the agent or specialist were mentioned, and assistance was given on the records. The records cover two periods, from the day-old chick to the six month old pullet, and the six to eighteen month record of production. The data received from these records include: flock size, mortality, brooding cost per chick, pounds of feed to grow a pullet, cost per pullet, age at first egg for the pullet record (1-6 months), for the laying flock record (6-18 months), percent egg production, pounds of feed to produce a dozen eggs, and profit per hen. This data is only a summary and more detailed records must be kept elsewhere. Just a summary is requested because we have heard so many complaints in the

past about detailed records. However, in the last half of 1954, we have also offered each cooperator a copy of "Virginia Poultry Record Book" and practically all seemed glad to receive and use it as a day-to-day work sheet.

Results: Besides the results listed above under "Goals Achieved," I gave a copy of the summary of all records received to each cooperating county agent. Numbers were used instead of names in this summary, and each agent was given the number of each of his cooperators so that he could tell him his number. An article on the cost of producing pullets in Virginia was prepared for the April Extension Service News, using figures obtained from these records. At least one county agent also prepared a news article from these figures. The records were discussed in several poultry meetings, both of the cooperators and in general meetings. We are including a copy of the 1953 summary of the "cost of producing pullets" records in this annual report. This was summarized in January, 1954. The 1954 records will be summarized in 1955, as a few records do not come in until after January 1 and the income tax returns are prepared. We feel that we have helped producers when the farm visits were made in answering questions regarding feeding, breeding, disease control, egg care, housing and many management problems. We hope that many of the questions answered will also help those agents with similar problems when they come up in the future.

Vaccinating pullets before production starts with intranasal Newcastle vaccine and with fowl pox vaccine is recommended. Laying flock demonstrators are especially urged to protect their layers with proven vaccination methods.





Fall and winter lights assist in maintaining high egg production when eggs are highest. A time clock is a practical and economical method of obtaining regularity. Egg producers are urged to use lights controlled by a time clock.

All producers of table and hatching eggs are urged to care for their eggs properly by frequent collections in wire baskets, and storage in a well ventilated cool damp place. Larger producers are urged to build an egg cellar in their laying house or an egg storage building.



D. QUALITY EGG AND POULTRY MEAT PROGRAM:

1. Purpose: The housewife is becoming more and more conscious of the "quality" of the food product that she buys. The quality of eggs and poultry meat that reaches the consumer is determined by the quality of the product grown and how this quality is maintained until it reaches the consumer. Producing and maintaining quality in eggs and poultry meat is brought about through the creating of a desire on the part of the producer for such a product and supplying him with the information as to how to do this. The specialists are recognizing their responsibility in both of these fields and included this as a part of the plan of work for the year.

2. Method:

Goals

To give about 37 days during the year to specific work on the production and maintaining of quality in poultry products.

Goals Achieved

The actual time devoted to the many phases of this program will probably exceed 37 days.

Adversity, in contrast to prosperity, is always dreaded; yet, history shows that adversity frequently results in taking account of the situation and when this is accompanied by changes, prosperity frequently follows. This past year has indicated that in some phases of the poultry field at least adversity was not far away. Just how much thought will be given to the conditions and what changes will be made, the future alone can tell.

The rapid expansion in the broiler industry together with a profit for the new efficient has resulted in not only more broilers than could be sold at a profit in the latter part of the current year, but carelessness, or probably a better term is lack of careful consideration, in many broiler production practices.

One of the examples of lack of applying sound practical methods is the overcrowding of broilers. In the summer of 1953, with lower broiler prices, there was much concern expressed over the number of "barebacks" among broilers. In Rockingham County, particularly, this problem seemed to be an acute one. At one of the early meetings to discuss this problem, the manager of one of the largest processing firms stated that the bareback problem alone had resulted in an estimated loss of over \$500,000 during the past year in the Shenandoah Valley area. The County Poultry Committee cooperating with the Extension workers made a study of the situation and sponsored a meeting. Those invited to this meeting were restricted to the feed dealers, hatcherymen, and processors. This problem was discussed by the best authorities available from the breeding, management, and nutritional angles. As it might be expected, it was not possible to determine just what was causing this trouble. It was agreed

that it could come from poor management, poor nutrition, and breeding. It was brought out that no single one factor could be held responsible since chicks with the same breeding and fed the same feed but under different management might have "barebacks" and well-feathered birds, the same was true of management with different lots. This subject was discussed at meetings held throughout the area and different steps were taken to try to combat the trouble. One large producer decided to "debeak" the day-old chicks. This seemed to help prevent the "barebacks" but growers in general do not feel that debeaking is the solution.

Other growers who have had trouble with "barebacks" are trying to follow more closely some of the good management practices such as more floor space, better ventilation, good feeding and good management in general. No special study has been given to this within the past month or two, so we do not know if this problem is as serious as a year ago; certainly much less is being said about it now.

In regard to quality in eggs there has been more interest in the latter part of this year than for several years. This is probably the result of the lowest egg prices during the fall and early winter than for several years. In each of two sections of the State, the egg producers in four to six counties requested a meeting to discuss the advisability of plans for the establishment of an egg grading station. Representatives of the State Division of Markets who have charge of the grading of eggs according to Federal-State grades, and representatives of the extension service attended these meetings and explained the steps in setting-up and carrying out an egg grading and merchandising program. Committees in each of these areas were appointed and are making a study of the volume of production, marketing possibilities, and costs of such a station. Throughout the year, the specialists have worked with egg producers encouraging them to produce and maintain quality in eggs. This has been emphasized in meetings, especially the meetings in late spring and summer. On visits to the farm, the egg holding room was discussed and suggestions for improving it were made. On each tour, a visit to a farm with a good egg holding room was included.

In the poultry and egg judging work carried on with the 4-H and other young people of the State, the candling of eggs has been included. In the material prepared for the home demonstration poultry leaders, the outline for one month's discussion was devoted to producing and maintaining quality in eggs. In the farm visits, particularly in the Farm Flock Improvement and the Laying Flock Demonstrations emphasis was placed on the production and maintaining of quality eggs and a suitable place to hold the eggs until they were marketed.

5. (1) FARM FLOCK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: (A. Lawrence Dean)

1. **Purpose:** This project has been offered in Virginia to farmers and farmers' wives in order to help them improve their poultry flocks in egg production, and as breeders, improving the general quality of

ds, their poultry houses, equipment, everyday flock manage-
s well as the kind of feed, and the method of feeding.

2. Method:

<u>Goals</u>	<u>Goals Achieved</u>
To enroll and work with demonstrators in 24 counties.	There were 247 demonstration flocks in 21 counties during 1954.

This project was supervised in 21 counties where each of 247 flocks were scored once or twice during the year. Of this total number of flocks, there were 111 flocks raised by colored farmers which were supervised by both colored men and women agents in 11 counties located in the southeastern counties of Virginia. The colored farm demonstration flocks have been supervised by fifteen agents who were working under the district agents, Miss Blanche Harrison and Mr. Ross W. Newsome who have their headquarters at the Virginia State College for Negroes at Petersburg, Virginia. The 136 white demonstration flocks located in 14 counties were supervised throughout the year 1954 by sixteen white men and women agents. These 247 farm demonstration flocks were made up of twelve different pure breeds as well as a few cross-bred flocks. There were 47,015 head of fowls in flocks owned by white demonstration farmers with an average of 345 birds to the flock for both laying and breeding flocks, males and females.

There are 111 flocks owned by colored demonstrators, consisting of a total of 8,343 birds or an average of 75 birds to the flock. However, in Gloucester County (F. B. Goods, the colored Farm Agent), the 17 demonstrators have an average of 131 birds to the flock. Thus it is seen that the average white demonstrator has eight times as many birds in the flock as the colored flock owner.

The white demonstrators had 305 poultry houses as compared with 259 houses for the colored demonstrators. The total number of houses for all demonstration farms, both colored and white, was 624 houses, many of which along the eastern part of the State were blown down during the recent wind storm.

From statements made by agents, there were more improvements made during 1954 than in 1953. More improvement has been made during the past year in flock improvement, as many demonstrators have sold off their birds where flocks were mixed and have made a choice of one breed.

About fifty percent of the demonstration flocks have been noted to y eggs for hatcheries but it is felt that there, no doubt, will be a rev in the number of breeding flocks due to the low price of broilers or lack of demand for hatchery eggs for late 1954 and early 1955. More strators are producing market eggs. There were 40 breeding flocks 136 flocks owned by white demonstration farmers selling eggs to in the State.

At the scoring, the white flocks averaged 73 points. Ten years ago the average was only 54 points. The average score of the 111 flocks owned by colored demonstrators was 58 points.

Improvements were made in the ventilation and floors of the houses, darkening the nests, providing community nests, and providing new and better mash hoppers and drinking fountains. The depth of litter was also increased and improved in 65 percent of the demonstrations. Larger waterers were obtained for about 75 percent of the demonstrations. Dropping pits and dropping boards were also obtained. Egg records were obtained from more than 65 percent of the demonstrators. These showed increased egg production in early fall and late spring.

By obtaining larger sized flocks, greater profits have been obtained for nearly all white demonstrators. Only about 40 percent of the colored demonstrators have been able to show such profit from the flock. There will be a reduction during the winter months of 1954 of the number of flocks and probably there will be less counties carried in this project. It is safe to say that at least five counties supervised by white agents and three counties supervised by colored agents will be dropped by March which will leave fourteen counties for 1955.

E 2 GROW HEALTHY PULLET PROJECT: (A. Laurence Dean)

1. Purpose: The purpose of this project is to reduce the mortality and the cost of pullets raised on farms, from the time of purchase or hatching of the chicks, until these pullets were placed in the winter quarters in the late summer or early fall months.

2. Method:

<u>Goals</u>	<u>Goals Achieved</u>
To enroll and supervise demonstrators in fifteen counties.	There were 68 flocks of pullets located in eight counties.

Procedure: It has been known as a fact that profitable winter egg production depends on the quality of the pullets raised during the year. It has also been realized that preventing poultry diseases early in the pullet's life depends on just two things--adoption of a definite sanitation program and the carrying out of such a program. In order to carry out such a program, ten points should be considered by each demonstrator. The ten points are: clean chicks, early hatched chicks, clean brooder house environment, the avoiding of crowded conditions, the daily practice of careful brooding, the running of the birds on a clean rearing range, the feeding of clean feed, the feeding of green feed, either on the range or in the brooder houses, supplying of shade, and the practice through the season of clean management.

During the rearing season each flock has been inspected and scored by the specialist. This scoring has been made by the use of a score sheet on which each of the following has been considered: early hatching, fresh range, completeness of feed ration, the use of separate broods and range, sanitary conditions in house and range, completeness of brooder house and interior equipment, the use or adoption of range shelters and outdoor range equipment, and last but not least, the use of brooding and rearing records, including a Grow Healthy program card. A mortality record to be kept for a period of 26 weeks.

In addition, sixteen points were considered by each demonstrator in the form of a questionnaire which had to do with the presence of rats, culling of the flock, purchase of pullorum free chicks, disinfection of brooder house, floor area of house, type of litter, coccidiosis, separation of pullets from layers, summer shelters, loss of pullets from flocks, feeding of cats, number of chicks started, and other points.

The Grow Healthy Pullet Project has, as already stated, been carried in eight counties during the past year. Two of these counties, Augusta and Shenandoah, have entered their 25 flocks of 15,000 birds in the Poultry Flock Improvement Project. These flocks were managed for both market and hatching egg production cooperating with some five different chick hatcheries during the spring of 1954.

A demonstrational poultry flock and poultry house owned by colored farmer of Gloucester County.





Colored poultry flock demonstrator with associate extension poultry husbandman scoring flock and poultry house.

Poultry specialist instructing colored farmer in selection of eggs for market and hatchery use.



WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AND RABBIT PRODUCTION: (A. Lawrence Dean)

As a part time Extension Wildlife Specialist, A. L. Dean has spent forty days in wildlife field work and supervision of domestic rabbit production in Virginia. The field and office work consisted of supervising of all h-h rabbit production home projects which were scattered in ninety different counties throughout the State of Virginia.

Wild bird lectures were given before members of home demonstration clubs in Essex County. Nine days were spent at two h-h summer camps--Camp Caesar, which was held in West Virginia, and h-h Camp Farrer in Norfolk County. Three lectures were given each day at both camps and Indian Lore was taught at night to all camp members including leaders. Four h-h Club camps had to be cancelled or refused due to the Extension Wildlife Specialist's attending the Tenth World's Poultry Congress in Scotland. Wildlife conservation problems were studied while touring seven foreign countries during August and September.

Advice was given to many interested parties over the State in many wildlife problems, such as bird life, fish life, etc. The wild bird song records were loaned to extension agents to be used at camps. Advice on fur bearing animals was given to fur farm owners in Virginia.

Many rabbit breeders were visited and help given in general management and rabbit disease control. Rabbits were judged at county fairs. Five sets of h-h Rabbit Club Hints were sent out. Fifteen hundred copies were prepared for each issue.

Three lectures were given at the Virginia Rabbit Institute (educational) during September at the John Marshall Hotel to sixty different rabbit growers. A scientific German experimental booklet of 150 pages was received from Germany and handed on to Dr. Murphy of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute by trans-lated into English and studied by Dr. Murphy and others during 1954-1955. Assistance was given to rabbit raisers in the form of letters and bulletins. A new supply of the rabbit disease pamphlet was printed and a supply distributed to those desiring information along this line.

Contacts and a study were made of British and European methods used in rabbit production and some European markets were visited and marketing methods observed, especially in the rural areas of Italy, France, and Switzerland. Rabbits were found mostly raised on the farms in both rural Great Britain and in Europe.

Rabbit and Other h-h Club Work: (A. Lawrence Dean)

During the past year, 1954, the Associate Extension Poultry Husbandman has worked with the h-h Club members in three different activities. He has assisted with h-h poultry members, h-h rabbit members, and with the different members in Wildlife conservation at h-h summer camps.



Good hutches and sanitation are essential in profitable rabbit production. This picture shows part of a 4-H Club member's setup.

More home freezers are being used each year to help hold the family food supply. Proper dressing and thorough cooling are important steps in maintaining the quality of the meat. A Farm Flock Demonstrator is shown preparing chicken for her freezer.



Throughout the year, assistance has been given to 4-H Rabbit Club members in about ninety different counties of the State. Some 4-H Rabbit Club project visits have been made, while five sets of illustrated "Rabbit Hints" have been sent out to 4-H Club members through extension agents. The "Hints" totaled 7,500 copies this year which was an increase over those sent out during the year 1953. A few 4-H Rabbit Club rabbits were judged at a few fairs scattered over the State.

Assistance was also given in the form of literature, such as bulletins and the supplying of rabbit club manuals and record club forms as well as blueprints of rabbit hutches, etc. Assistance was also given some 4-H Club members with their processing of rabbit meat produced by some of the 4-H Club members in different areas of the State.

Many of the 4-H Rabbit Club members were helped in joining adult rabbit organizations. Assistance was also given 4-H Club members to locate breeder rabbits as well as to sell some rabbit breeding stock owned by some of the club members, wherever they desired to dispose of breeding rabbits. The 4-H Rabbit Club members were kept informed each season of the year as to just what he or she should do to obtain better results from their rabbit stud.

About 400 4-H Club members and leaders and agents were given instruction at 4-H summer camps in wild bird conservation, animal conservation, reptile study, insect study, fish study, wild plant growth, including trees as well as Indian Lore.

Plans were considered in preparing a 4-H Club Indian Lore pamphlet for use by the spring of 1955 to use at camps at 4-H Club meetings. This will include plans for totem pole construction, as well as Indian handicraft at camps and at home of 4-H Club members for personal use and for sale to those interested in this type of handiwork.

The construction of wild bird fixtures, such as bird houses, feeders, bird baths, and other equipment will also be included. Training in field wild bird study was given in a few areas of Virginia. Wild bird records were loaned and listened to by some 4-H Club members.

Tenth World's Poultry Congress: (A. Lawrence Dean)

During the months of August and September, A. Lawrence Dean, Associate Poultry Husbandman, traveled to Scotland and attended the Tenth World's Poultry Congress which was held for eight days in Edinburg, Scotland. The Congress was attended by representatives from 58 nations, the delegates numbering 2,000. There were 111 scientific lectures offered in both the English and French languages. The lectures were divided into five different sections and offered in each subject, during the forenoons from August 13 to August 20 at the University of Edinburg.

During the Congress week, there were many tours to different Scottish points of interest, such as poultry plants, turkey plantations, and the Royal Veterinarian

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Headquarters. There were also many special functions offered to those attending the Congress, such as banquets, social affairs, receptions, etc. On the last evening, there was a preview of the Festival Military Tattoo at the famous Edinburg Castle in which some six or eight hundred uniformed Scottish troops passed before over 2,000 representatives.

The United States delegates numbered 175 which was the second largest group to attend the Congress.

The opening of the Tenth World's Poultry Congress was officially held on August 14 at 11:00 a.m. at McEwan Hall. The Earl of Home Minister of State for Scotland presided. The World's Poultry Science Association, which has a membership of 1,600 from 76 countries, took charge of the functions of this and other early Congresses. This organization has members from the U.S.A. and Virginia, including the Associate Extension Poultry Husbandman, A. Lawrence Dean, who has been a member since about 1920.

The meeting was really opened by Her Royal Highness, Princess Alice, sister of the late King George V of England, grandfather of the present Queen and father of the late King George VI. Later the Poultry Congress Exhibit was opened to the public in the Waverly Market at Edinburg which was attended during the week by thousands.

The program of the scientific section was divided into five sections: Section A, Genetics; Section B, Physiology and Nutrition; Section C, Diseases and their Control; Section D, Economics and Marketing; and Section E, Husbandry and Miscellaneous. All lectures were offered to the delegates in two languages, French and English. Special officials for translation of all papers offered were present in all lecture rooms through the week.

At the Royal Show live birds were exhibited. These consisted of (1) Utility Poultry, (2) Standard Bred Poultry, (3) Bantams, (4) Ducks and Geese, and (5) Turkeys.

Throughout the week there were public demonstrations held in the hall of the Royal Show located next door to the North British Hotel where most Americans stayed during the Congress. The Americans attending the Congress were from most of the States and the Canadian Provinces. On Sunday, August 15, most of the delegates from the U.S.A. attended in a body the St. Giles Cathedral in Edinburg, Scotland.

The Experimental International Exhibition was set up in a special exposition hall on Princess Street, Edinburg. The closing of the Congress was held in the forenoon of August 21 in the McEwan Hall of Parliament House.

After the Congress, the Associate Extension Poultry Husbandman, delegate from Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Department of Poultry Husbandry, visited six

other countries to observe the agricultural conditions, such as poultry industry and rabbit industry in England, France, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, and Italy at Venice, Florence, Rome, Rappalla, Geneva, and San Remo, covering all told about 25,000 miles and requiring about 51 days during August and September in special and annual leave at most of the expense from private source for both Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Dean.

During the entire trip some 175 pictures were taken in all seven countries. Five other Virginians were in attendance at the Congress from Rockingham County.

F. 4-H POULTRY CLUB WORK: (Denver D. Bragg, 4-H Poultry Specialist)

Overall Appraisal of Year's Program: Poultry industry leaders in the State seem to be showing increased interest in the Junior Poultry Program. The writer was appointed a member of the State Poultry Federation Youth Committee and a larger amount of funds was secured from industry people to help carry on junior poultry work. The trend toward larger and better quality project work seems to continue. There was more interest and greater participation in poultry judging and egg grading work and greater participation and a better showing made in interstate 4-H poultry activities. The number of poultry majors at the college has continued to increase. More interest has been shown in two-day or weekend poultry camps and special instruction get-togethers not connected with school or club meetings. After reconsidering the matter, it was felt that this was a bad year to start the proposed Junior Chicken of Tomorrow Contest and this activity was temporarily dropped. Less time was spent on 4-H poultry field days and special brooding and rearing projects, and more time than usual was spent with out-of-state poultry events, public relations and special adult activities and other such work not listed as a specific project.

A total of 3,529 boys and girls were enrolled in 4-H poultry club work in Virginia in 1954, and 60 percent of them completed their projects. The accompanying table and graph gives additional information concerning the poultry club enrollment, and poultry project completions in the State during the last fifteen years (1940 through 1954).

Major 4-H Poultry Activities and Accomplishments: The following projects or activities were carried on by the 4-H Poultry Specialist in an effort to promote and improve junior poultry work in the State.

1. 4-H Poultry Field Days and the Visiting and Scoring of Projects:

<u>Goals</u>	<u>Goals Achieved</u>
Conduct 4-H Poultry Field Days in fifteen or more counties and assist with the visiting and scoring of 600 or more projects.	Conducted Poultry Field Days in twelve counties. Assisted agents and leaders with the visiting and scoring of 490 4-H poultry projects.

County 4-H Poultry Field Days were conducted in twelve counties and 344 projects visited in this activity. Special or spot-check visits were also made to projects in eighteen other counties. The writer personally visited 171 projects--125 of them in connection with poultry field days and 46 in other counties under different circumstances. In conducting the County Field Days, the 4-H Poultry Specialist, county extension workers and a few local leaders divided up the county and with the assistance of club member guides, visited and scored all 4-H poultry projects in the county in one day. An effort was made to meet the club member's parents, check on his record book, provide on-the-spot advice concerning his project work, and give publicity and/or awards to club members having the highest score. In some instances, the day ended with a glamorized meeting of poultry club members, leaders, and parents where comments were made concerning project work, awards presented, and entertainment and refreshments provided. A regular field score card available from the State Office was used in this scoring. In several instances, meetings were conducted prior to the day's visiting to coordinate the thinking of the persons doing the scoring.

This visiting and scoring of projects in the field helps the club member to obtain needed information concerning his project and gives the 4-H Specialist and others an opportunity to obtain firsthand information concerning the type of project work being carried on in the county.

2. Judging and Demonstration Activities:

Goals

To get 32 or more counties to give club members special poultry judging and/or demonstration training. Specialist to conduct 40 training meetings in connection with these activities.

Goals Achieved

Thirty six counties gave club members special judging or demonstration training. Specialist conducted 50 meetings or laboratory workouts to assist with this training.

Training Meetings: Special 4-H poultry judging or poultry demonstration training work was carried on in 36 counties of the State this year. The writer assisted with special poultry judging or demonstration instruction for 33 counties, and three or more counties conducted such training without help from the State Office. Fifty special meetings with a total attendance of 512 club members were held in connection with these judging and demonstration activities.

District Contests: Four district or area 4-H poultry judging contests were held in the State again this year, and the two to five top teams (depending on the number participating) from each district contest competed in a State contest. The district contests were held at Abingdon, Rustburg, Stanley, and Richmond. Judging teams from a total of 27 different counties participated in

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this competition. Extension home economic personnel also conducted district foods demonstration contests in the State again this year and the top performers participated in a State contest later in the year.



Presentation of awards to winners in the State Poultry Judging Contest. This team represented Virginia in interstate contests at Richmond and Chicago.

State Contests: State poultry judging, egg grading, poultry foods, and poultry production demonstration contests were held here at the college during the week of the State 4-H Short Course June 21 to 25. Fifteen eligible teams participated in the State Poultry Judging Contest; six teams entered the State Egg Grading Contest; winners from four districts competed in the State Poultry Foods Demonstration Contest; and teams or individuals from three counties participated in the Poultry Production Demonstration Contest.

In the poultry judging contest, the Shenandoah County team placed first, the Franklin County team second, and the Henry County team third. The two high scoring individuals on the Shenandoah County team, Wayne Wetzel and Charles Lohliker, and two other high scoring individuals in the State contest, C. J. Martin and Kenneth Washburn, all received trips to the Atlantic Rural Exposition and to Chicago to represent the State in Interstate competition.

The State Egg Grading Contest was won by the Halifax County team composed of Patsy Carr and Olivia Chaney, and the Poultry Foods Demonstration Contest was won by Ethel and Kistie Patch, twin girls from Henrico County. The Roanoke County team composed of Brooks Ferguson and Betty Jones won the Poultry Production Demonstration Contest making the third consecutive year a team from this county has received this award.

The teams from Halifax, Henrico and Roanoke Counties represented the State in the Interstate Egg Grading and Poultry Foods and Poultry Production Demonstration Contests held at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, in connection with the HERPOD Exposition.

Interstate Contests: This year, Virginia entered 4-H poultry teams in six Interstate contests: the Northeastern Poultry Judging Contest at Boston, the Atlantic Rural Poultry Judging Contest at Richmond, the Invitational Interstate Poultry Judging Contest at Chicago, and the HERPOD Egg Grading, Poultry Production, and Poultry Foods Demonstration Contests at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Virginia teams placed first or won blue ribbons in all contests entered except two, the exceptions being the HERPOD Poultry Foods Demonstration Contest, where our team received a white ribbon and the Chicago Poultry Judging Contest where our team placed fourth. Club members from the State were first and second high individuals in the Boston and Atlantic Rural Poultry Judging Contests and a third high individual in the Chicago Poultry Judging Contest. Virginia was represented in the Northeastern 4-H Poultry Judging Contest at Boston by the 1953 second place State 4-H Poultry Judging Team. Representatives in all other Interstate competition were winners in State contests this year.

3. Poultry Instruction at 4-H Poultry School, Club, Camp, and Short Course Meetings:

Goals
To give timely poultry instruction at 36 or more 4-H poultry school, club, camp or short course meetings.

Goals Achieved
Gave poultry instruction at 39 4-H poultry school, club, camp, or short course meetings.

The writer gave poultry instruction this year to 990 club members at 39 different poultry school, club, camp, or short course meetings. Twenty-three of the meetings were regular club meetings, four were meetings conducted in connection with the 4-H poultry school, two were classes conducted at the State 4-H Short Course, and ten were classes conducted at four different camps. The instruction given at these meetings generally consisted of an illustrated talk or demonstration on some approved poultry production or marketing practice. Flannel board material, models, or live birds were used at most of the meetings to help hold interest and to pass on the desired information. About 700 more club members participated in this type of instruction this year than last.

Special two-day or weekend poultry camps were held at Camp Highroad in Loudoun County in May and at Camp Bethel in Roanoke County in June. Poultry instruction was also given at the regular Roanoke County camp and a special two-day camp for club members going on out-of-state poultry judging trips

4-H Poultry Specialist explaining how to judge live market poultry at Loudoun County Week-end 4-H Poultry Camp.



and certain other individuals was conducted at the Kiwanis Camp in Henry County in September. Five counties participated in the Loudoun County 4-H poultry camp, three counties participated in the Camp Bethel poultry camp and four counties participated in the special poultry camp in Henry County. The programs at the Loudoun and Roanoke poultry camps consisted of a vesper service and general poultry management instruction the first evening, and poultry and egg grading and judging instruction the next day, with a crowing contest, egg throw, and some other recreational activities included to spice up the program. The instruction at the regular Roanoke County 4-H camp consisted of illustrated flannel board lectures, quiz contests, and "truth or consequences" programs given as a special poultry class. The program at the Henry County camp consisted mainly of poultry and egg judging instructions with laboratory workouts in the daytime and classroom instruction at night. This camp was financed by local business organizations with no cost to the club members.

4. Poultry Training Meetings for County Workers and/or Local Leaders:

<u>Goals</u>	<u>Goals Achieved</u>
To hold twelve meetings for the training of county workers and/or 4-H leaders or poultry project leaders.	Held eight poultry leader training meetings. Assisted with an In-Service Training School for agents. Held four special junior leader conferences.

Eight leader meetings, four special junior leader conferences, and several conferences with agents during the week of the Extension Agents Training School were held to help train local poultry leaders and pass on subject matter information to county workers. At these get-togethers leaders and/or agents were given information concerning 4-H poultry field days, or the 4-H poultry leader manual, special projects, record book collection, judging and demonstration activities, etc.

One of the meetings was a special county-wide get-together of club leaders in Hanover County where the writer and the extension garden specialist passed out printed subject matter information and discussed local leader activities in connection with the two projects. A second more or less county wide poultry leaders' meeting was held at the home of one of the more successful poultry club members in Henry County, where general poultry production practices were discussed. Four more leader training meetings were held in connection with the conducting of 4-H poultry field days; another in connection with poultry instruction at the Roanoke County Camp; and another with an All-Star committee contemplating assistance with 4-H project work in Prince William County. Special conferences were held with junior poultry leaders in Prince William, Henrico, Russell, and Stafford counties to solicit their help and in some instances offer awards to those assisting most with the collection of project record books.

at Chicago sponsored by the State Poultry Federation; another trip for two club members to the Fact Finding Conference at Kansas City sponsored by the poultry marketing firms; and another, a scholarship for fifteen club members to the State Poultry Federation Convention at Roanoke sponsored by the organization.

4-H and FFA members receive recognition at Poultry Federation Meeting.



In conducting this poultry achievement program, county workers selected and sent into the State Office the records of their one or two best poultry club members in the county. These records were judged by a State committee (taking into consideration a field check of the club member's project work) and awards made to the club members who had done the best work. The club member with the best record (other than the one participating in the National Poultry Achievement Contest) received the trip to the National Club Congress, the two individuals with the next best records received trips to the Junior Fact Finding Conference, providing they planned to make their living from some type of poultry work, and the fifteen club members with the next best records received scholarships to the State Poultry Federation Convention.

Virginia poultry club members have won \$300 college scholarships in the National Poultry Achievement Contest which is now sponsored by the Ford Tractor Division of the Ford Motor Company for the last three consecutive years.

b. Special Brooding and Rearing or Breeding Flock Projects:

<u>Goals</u>	<u>Goals Achieved</u>
To get ten or more counties to carry special 4-H brooding and rearing or breeding flock projects.	Ten counties carried special 4-H brooding and rearing projects.

Special 4-H brooding and rearing or breeding flock projects were carried in Stafford, Page, Rockbridge, Orange, Henrico, Fairfax, Nottoway, Amelia, King George, and Roanoke Counties this year. The projects were sponsored by local hatcheries, or other business firms in all instances except one. The exception being the project in Henrico County which was sponsored by the Sears Roebuck Foundation.

The sponsor in most instances furnished straight-run chicks to two to eighteen club members in each county, with the understanding that each club member would return a certain number of birds or a certain amount of money when the first cockerels were sold. The money returned, or the money received from the sale of the birds returned, will be used to set up the project again another year in most of the counties. In several instances club members were required to make a poultry or egg exhibit at their local fair. Most of the counties gave awards or recognition to the club members that did the best project work. All projects involved chickens except the one in Roanoke County which was a special turkey project.

The special breeding flock project in Nottoway County was conducted again this year and was expanded to include two club members in Amelia County. The project was sponsored by Clay's Hatchery and Clay's Market. About 4,500 high quality chicks (part of these sexed) and nine club members were involved in the project. Club members paid regular price minus a special two cent discount for the chicks they received. The cockerels were sold as broilers when they were between ten to eleven weeks of age, and the better pullets were kept as breeders. The project this fall included about 2,800 pullets and the necessary cockerels to form breeding flock units. Most of the eggs from these flocks will be sold to Clay's Hatchery, which helped to sponsor the project. Flocks in this project are scored twice a year, once during the growing stage and once after the hens come into production. Awards of an all-expense trip to the State 4-H Short Course, \$15 worth of equipment, and \$5 worth of equipment are given to the high scoring individuals. The awards are presented at a dinner meeting in the spring of the year for club members participating in the project and one of their parents.

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ENROLLMENT AND COMPLETION OF 4-H POULTRY PROJECT WORK IN VIRGINIA COMPARED
WITH TOTAL 4-H ENROLLMENT AND COMPLETION IN THE STATE FROM 1940 THROUGH 1954

(This summary includes all club work, both white and colored.)

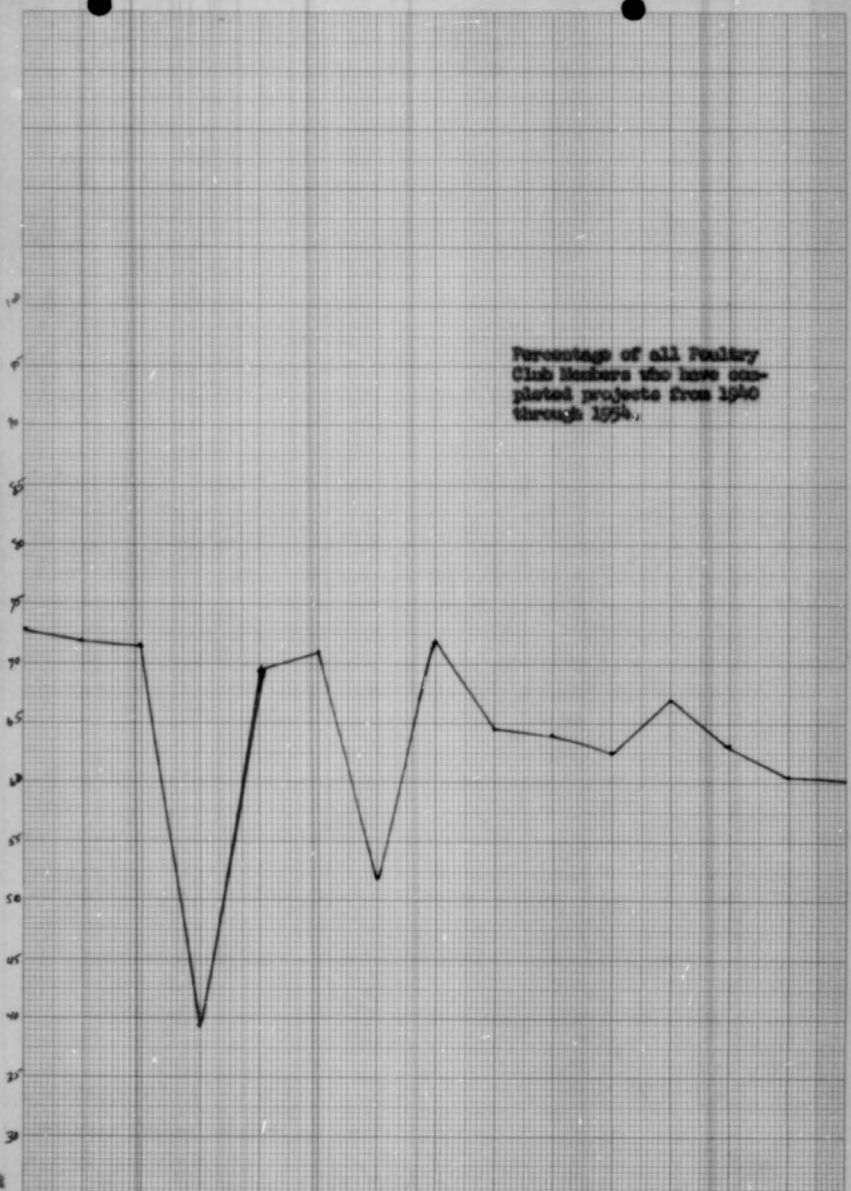
<u>Year</u>	<u>Total 4-H Club Enrollment in the State</u>	<u>Total No. Club Members Completing Projects</u>	<u>No. Club Members Carrying a Poultry Project</u>	<u>No. Club Members Completing a Poultry Project</u>
1940	37,197	27,585	7,680	5,620
1941	35,734	25,270	5,026	3,530
1942	35,635	25,347	6,658	4,767
1943	37,385	25,292	6,971	2,768
1944	33,380	23,316	5,051	3,514
1945	36,224	26,539	5,320	3,770
1946	40,475	30,414	5,692	2,965
1947	43,879	33,840	4,325	3,125
1948	48,252	35,239	4,700	3,035
1949	49,091	36,229	4,790	3,073
1950	54,599	41,318	4,595	2,872
1951	56,121	42,571	3,963	2,642
1952	58,750	51,850	3,952	2,456
1953	60,279	44,009	3,710	2,229
1954	61,850	44,654	3,529	2,119

PERCENTAGE OF COMPLETIONS

Percentage of all Postary Club Members who have completed projects from 1940 through 1954.

YEAR

1940 1941 1942 1943 1944 1945 1946 1947 1948 1949 1950 1951 1952 1953 1954



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G. MISCELLANEOUS:

1. County Poultry Committees: About sixteen counties in the State have poultry advisory committees. In several of these, one or more members of the committee are members of the county agricultural advisory committee. In some other counties, there are poultry producers and others who are interested in some phase of the poultry industry who have agreed to work with the county extension workers in promoting educational work and other activities for the good of the poultry industry. Many of the more commercial poultry counties have very active poultry committees. Lee Herrick worked with the committees in nine counties. Thirteen committee meetings were held in these counties, four of them having two committee meetings each. The county extension workers and a poultry specialist met with the committee. Most of the poultry committee meetings are held during the winter. The poultry situation in the county is considered carefully and the county extension poultry program for the year decided upon. The programs or goals for 1954 included community, county, and area educational meetings, tours, culling and vaccination demonstrations, disease control and other educational programs. Some committees included the sponsoring of fairs, laying flock demonstrations, and one county committee sponsored a cooperative egg marketing organization. In each county, the committee recommended a continuous publicity program on good management practices for both production of eggs and poultry meat and maintaining egg quality.

In many of the counties, the members of the poultry committee take a very active part in working out the details of the Poultry School or other meetings. The county agent who has a good poultry committee and uses it usually carries out the best poultry extension program. The industry members are much quicker to see some of the problems and since it affects their income, they are interested in helping solve the problems, prevent disease outbreaks, and try to correct other conditions that affect their profit.

2. Poultry Organizations:

(a) The State Poultry Federation: In addition to the county poultry committees, there is an overall poultry organization called the Virginia State Poultry Federation. This association, as the name indicates, is a federation of several organizations dealing with the different phases of the industry. It includes the associations of the State Feedmen, Broiler Growers, Hatcherymen or Baby Chick Association, the Processing or Marketing Group, and the Record of Performance Association. While there is no state-wide organization of the farm flock owners, the by-laws of the Federation state that at least one director of the association must be a representative of this group. The by-laws also state that each of the associations shall elect one of their number to represent them on the Board of Directors of the Federation.

The poultry specialists have continued to work in close cooperation with the Federation. The project leader is a Director of the Federation and during this year was a member of the Health Committee and of the Place of Meeting and Program Committee. Denver Bragg is a member of the Federation's Youth Committee. Lee Herrick is a Director of the State Turkey Association. All of the directors attend the annual meetings and are frequently called upon to prepare articles for the Virginia Poultryman, the official monthly organ of the Federation.

The Directors of the Federation elect one of their number to represent the poultry group on the Agricultural Conference Board, the advisory and planning group for agriculture in the State. The Directors also have one of their number as the State representative to the Northeastern Poultry Producers' Council.

The Federation has been very active for the past few years in securing appropriations and other assistance for the poultry research, teaching, and extension phases at the college and in advising in numerous other ways on poultry problems affecting the State. The Federation, through its Directors and Executive Secretary, is constantly looking out after the interests of the poultry industry of the State, not only from a state, but also from a national, viewpoint. In this respect, it has been particularly active in trying to work out national regulations and legislation as to the grading and inspection of poultry meats.

(b) The State Turkey Association: The Virginia turkey men are organized into a State Turkey Association. L. W. Herrick is a Director in this association and, as such, keeps closely in contact with its activities. One of the outstanding promotional activities during the year was the holding of a two-day meeting of national food editors and others promoting greater consumption of poultry products. A meeting of the National Turkey Federation was held in connection with this meeting. On the second day, a tour was made of several of the interesting turkey production processing places.

(c) The State Rabbit Association: While rabbits are not a branch of the poultry field, the Poultry Department has been asked to assist the rabbit growers and other interested people in the State with their problems. A. L. Dean has been active in the State rabbit organization and with its other activities as described in the rabbit section of his report.

3. Record of Performance: The project leader has continued to supervise the Home Record of Performance program in the State. There has been some question as to whether or not this work should be under the supervisor of the other phases of the National Poultry Improvement Plan. The poultry breeders who make up the R.O.P. Association have felt that more assistance can be rendered them in this work from the members of the V.P.I. Poultry Department than from the Division of Markets, particularly in the selection of their breeding stock and in the feeding and general management of the flock.

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During 1954 there were three chicken breeders carrying the R.O.P. program. These had 684 birds qualify under R.O.P. regulations. To qualify, a hen must produce 180 eggs in 300 days or 200 eggs in 365 days, and these eggs must average at least two ounces each during six months of the year. They must also be of desirable color, shape, and shell texture. The hens must be reasonably true to type, of standard weight, and free of major disqualifications.

One of the two White Leghorn breeders has been carrying this program continuously for 26 years. This makes the eighteenth year for the other White Leghorn breeder.

A New Hampshire breeder is placing special emphasis upon the development of good all-around birds. He is making a record of the body growth, rate of feathering, and breast measurements of the chicks up until three months of age. These characteristics, as well as the egg production, are considered in selecting the breeding pens. Several other breeders of the dual-purpose breeds are trapping and making similar studies, but as yet have not decided to enroll under the official Record of Performance supervision.

When the National Turkey Improvement Plan was first adopted, one of our turkey breeders became interested in the R.O.P. phase and trapped some of his birds for a little while. However, he discontinued before the year was completed. A few Virginia breeders have been trap-nesting their turkeys for several years but until 1953, no one had carried the work under R.O.P. supervision. For the past two years, a breeder of Beltsville Whites has trapped some of his breeders under R.O.P. supervision. This year he entered 439 candidates and 279 met R.O.P. requirements.

4. Poultry Inspectors' School: The extension personnel cooperating with the members of the teaching staff have for a number of years supervised, and given much of the instruction to, the Poultry Inspectors' School. For a number of years this school has been held for a week here at the college and has been attended by from 40 to 50.

In planning the program for 1954 with representatives of the State Division of Markets, who directly supervise the Inspectors, it was decided to change the program somewhat. The Inspectors met at Harrisonburg in June for two days of instruction. On the third day, the entire group visited the National Research Center at Beltsville, Maryland. For the next day and a half, the majority of them sat in on the National Poultry and Turkey Improvement Plan Conference at Washington, D.C. The project leader was with the Inspectors throughout the week, gave one or two talks at the Harrisonburg meeting, and visited the Research Center with them.

5. Nutrition School: For several years, the Animal, Dairy, and Poultry Husbandry Departments have cooperated with the State Feedmen's Association

in holding a two- or three-day Nutrition School. This school has been attended largely by the people in the State who are interested in the manufacture, distribution, and servicing of livestock feeds.

Because of the limited facilities for housing at Blacksburg, the feedmen for several years have been interested in holding this school in one of the larger cities of the State. Therefore, it was decided to try holding the 1954 meeting in Roanoke. It was held at the Hotel Roanoke the third week in February. The committee of the Feedmen's Association not only helped in preparing the program, but they were especially active in getting a good attendance. The program went off as scheduled and was declared by many to be one of the best. There were about 124 people present at this meeting.

Miscellaneous Activities of Poultry Specialists:

1. Miscellaneous Activities of A. Lawrence Dean: The Associate Extension Poultry Husbandman has spent considerable time in miscellaneous activities. During the year some 5,000 or more "Poultry Hints" were sent out to the Farm Poultry Flock Improvement Demonstrators in 22 counties and 65 farmers were enrolled in the "Grow Healthy Pullet Project."

Between three and four hundred letters were written to interested individuals on poultry in the State and some outside the state. Articles were written on both poultry and rabbit production and blueprints were sent out as well as having been handed directly to farmers.

Lectures were given before county groups on seasonal poultry topics, and a few poultry schools of one half day duration were held, at which time talks were given to both adults and junior poultry raisers.

Both white and colored farmers were helped during the year at the time of visiting their farms, and a few 4-H Poultry Club members were visited.

Some hatcheries were helped and many hatchery flock owners assisted. Poultry shows in four counties were judged. Advice was given to many farmers pertaining to different flock poultry problems.

2. Miscellaneous Activities of L. W. Herrick, Jr.:

(a) General. Answering routine correspondence, field and office conferences, meetings of the Extension Specialists, Agricultural Faculty, General Faculty, Poultry Staff, judging at fairs, and travel to and from counties took some time.

The "Grow Healthy Pullet Program" and "Grow Healthy Turkey Program" of previous years were dropped as projects, but the work was continued on essentially the same basis under general farm visits with agents. No mortality records were requested, as had been under the previous organized projects.

Timely monthly poultry and turkey letters mimeographed for county agents to sign and send to their producers were discontinued when the projects were dropped. In place of these monthly letters I prepared one turkey and one chicken news article for each issue of the Extension Service News. This goes to 21,000 people. In 1953, turkey letters went to 170 people and poultry letters 548 people. Several agents are now using the timely 4-H poultry letters written by D. D. Bragg to fill their needs for a monthly poultry letter to producers, as they do not feel that a news article in a monthly publication takes the place of a mimeographed letter with their signature sent from their office. During the general farm visits to chicken and turkey producers with county agents, practically all poultry production problems of management, disease control, marketing, housing, feeding, breeding, and labor-saving equipment and methods were discussed at one time or other as they arose. Every attempt was made to offer suggestions that would lower the cost of production, increase efficiency, put a higher quality product on the market or make the work easier.

Many questions regarding laying cages have been asked the past two years. In 1954, several sizeable cage operations started in Northern Virginia and by observing these now and in the future we can better advise others about the problems of the cage system under Virginia conditions. Mrs. Ingersoll in Rappahannock County has approximately 500 layers in cages, Mr. Richard Fadelay in Loudoun County has about 4,500 caged layers, Mr. E. J. Galloway, Prince William County, has 1,000 birds in cages, and Mr. R. Stewart, Culpeper, about 500 cages. All these cage operations started in 1954.

I attended several committee meetings and producer meetings prior to and at the organization of the Winchester Area Cooperative Poultry Auction in the spring and early summer. It since has been operating successfully. Irvin Williams, turkey producer of Stephens City, manages the cooperative.

I spent four days in the Shenandoah Valley area with Dr. Vernon Baker and Mr. McNeill Marshall, V.P.I. Agricultural Engineers, who were making a study of ventilation problems of poultry producers. Prior to their field trip, they had sent questionnaires to county agents to be filled out by cooperative poultry producers. The producers visited on this survey were ones who had answered the questionnaires and indicated that they would like assistance with their problems. Some time was spent in the office before and after the trip discussing ventilation problems with Baker and Marshall.

Attending the Virginia planning meetings for the National Turkey Improvement Plan took two days, attending meetings regarding barebacks in broilers in the Rockingham County area about two days, and meeting with the Directors of the Virginia Turkey Growers Association two days. I spent two days on R.O.P. inspection work at Hilltop Hatchery and Breeding Farm, Broadway, breeders of Beltsville White turkeys.

I gave two demonstrations on vaccinating chickens for Fowl Pox and Newcastle disease, and checked the flock on one county nine days later for "takes."

I spent six days (May 31 to June 5 inclusive) showing Dr. B. M. Prasad, poultry officer from India on a year's visit to the United States, part of the poultry industry of Virginia. We spent Monday at V.P.I. discussing poultry problems with members of the departments of Poultry, Biochemistry and Nutrition, Pathology, and Agricultural Economics, and visiting the physical plant at V.P.I. The balance of the week we visited commercial broiler turkey and egg producing farms, a processing plant, poultry rendering plant, hatcheries, the Harrisonburg Diagnostic Laboratory, and the West Virginia sub-station at Wardenoville.

For professional improvement, I read some literature, both scientific poultry journals and popular poultry magazines. I attended the Pennsylvania Farm Show, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, two days in January on my own time and expense. I attended the two weeks' "In-Service Training School" at V.P.I. in February for new assistant agents and a few older specialists, and spent one half day at the Poultry Nutrition School at Roanoke in February. I spent six days (including travel time) at the American Poultry and Hatchery Federation's annual educational meeting and industry exposition in Cleveland, Ohio, in July, six days for the Poultry Science Association Meeting at Purdue in July, and visited Beacon Milling Company's research farm at Cayuga, New York, and the Charles Pfizer and Company research farm at Terre Haute, Indiana, enroute. The Annual Extension Conference took four day's time and the Virginia Poultry Federation's annual meeting in Roanoke two day's time.

(b) 4-H Club Activities: I scheduled twelve days for the 4-H Club program in the 1954 Plan of Work and worked thirteen days.

I spent one day in March pinch-hitting for Denver Bragg who was sick, giving poultry judging instruction in one county. I worked three days assisting with two area weekend poultry camps, Camp High Road and Camp Bethel, nearly six days preparing for and helping with the 4-H Club week at V.P.I., discussed poultry at one 4-H Club meeting in a county, assisted one day with the interstate poultry judging contest held at the Atlantic Rural Exposition and two days with the State 4-H Poultry Show at the Atlantic Rural Exposition.

(c) Preparing Instructional Material, Radio, News, T.V., etc.: Preparing news articles, circular letters, talks for county, community and area meetings, radio and T.V. scripts took considerable time. Most radio programs were made at V.P.I. and the time was included in office time.

It required from one and one-half to two days to prepare each T.V. show. Three shows were prepared, two of which were given over both WBLB-TV, Roanoke,

and WTVR, Richmond, and the third was given only over WEIS-TV. When the show is presented on the Roanoke station, it takes an additional half day for actually giving the show and travel. When presented in Richmond, it is scheduled on the same day that I work in Henrico or a nearby county. This year the TV stations improved their technique in using 2 x 2 kodachrome slides, in that they now project them on a screen and then pick up the picture with their TV camera. With this technique, the speaker points to the slides as he discusses them, which is much more effective. My shows this year were entirely with slides except for two charts used for the first show. The TV technicians at the above stations do not like to switch from charts to slides, so I had several slides made of charts for use in later programs. One day in the field was spent taking several pictures to complete a slide set for one TV program.

I spent at least one day checking over Bulletin 51, "Poultry Production," and conferring with Mr. Moore in revising this bulletin. The 1953 Annual Report and 1954 Plan of Work took approximately thirteen office days.

I continued taking colored pictures with the Poultry Extension Service 35 millimeter camera and black and white pictures with my personal camera, using flash with each for inside pictures. I spent four half days, one full day, and many part days in conjunction with other farm visits taking pictures. I spent about thirteen days labeling and filing color and black and white pictures. I took and filed 74 good black and white pictures and 96 good 2 x 2 kodachrome slides in 1954. This year I set up a filing system for black and white pictures for the extension poultry department similar to the system used by the V.P.I. visual aids specialist. Filing the black and white pictures taken the past two years had one definite value, in that it showed me in which phases of turkey and poultry management I still needed the most pictures. The Poultry Department received additional steel filing folders for 2 x 2 kodachrome slides and I refilled all slides to provide room for more slides.

A Poultry Booth displaying some of the latest poultry information available from V.P.I. in the form of bulletins, house plans, and mimeographed material was set up in the junior end of the live poultry tent at the Atlantic Rural Exposition in Richmond. Denver Bragg and I, with the guidance of Harry Moore, planned the booth in the office, and Bragg and I erected it at the Exposition. Bragg, A. L. Dean, and I spent some time at the booth each of the five days it was up, answering questions relating to poultry management, disease control, housing, and feeding. Paper and pencils were available for people who wished to request definite literature. As a result, a total of 180 copies of bulletins, building and equipment plans, and mimeographed material was requested. This was a new project and we felt that it was very worthwhile.

3. Miscellaneous Activities of Denver D. Bragg

- (a) Fairs: The writer judged the poultry, eggs and/or rabbit

exhibits at eight county or area affairs and assisted with the judging and setting up of Junior exhibits, and the setting up of an educational poultry display at the Atlantic Rural Exposition. Junior poultry exhibits at the Atlantic Rural Exposition has increased from 27 exhibitors showing sixty birds in 1952 to 41 exhibitors showing 110 birds in 1954.

(b) Falls to Groups: Falls were made to 18 groups totaling about 405 persons. These falls included poultry instruction at special 4-H training meetings, a Farmal board presentation at a turkey flock owners' meeting, poultry instruction at adult community meetings, veterans and 4-H assemblies and other such gatherings.

(c) Program Planning Activities: Assistance was given with 32 meetings or conferences dealing with the planning of State or county, Junior and adult poultry activities. Two of these meetings were with the State Poultry Federation Youth Committee, others with 4-H specialists and State club personnel and others with agents or planning groups in the county.

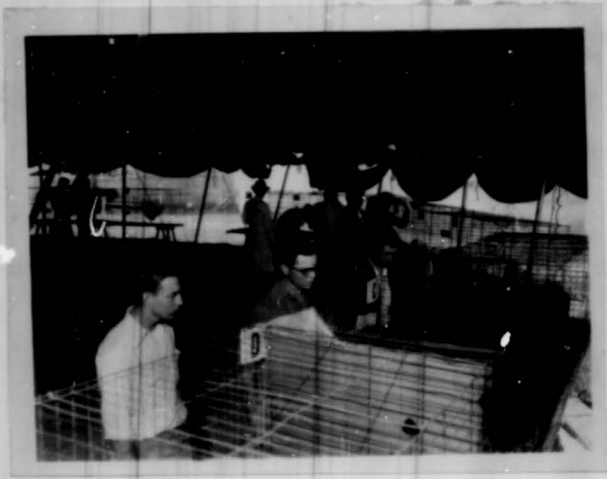
(4) Conferences: A total of 166 conferences were held in the field, 105 of them with individual county or assistant agents, and 61 with other persons interested in poultry or the extension program. In addition, 43 conferences were held at the office with Extension staff members and callers interested in obtaining poultry information.

(e) Adult Farm and Home Visits: Twenty-three adult farm and home, or adult demonstration visits were made to give advice concerning poultry house construction, management, disease problems, etc.

(f) Other Educational Meetings: The writer attended one week of the Extension Agents In-Service Training School, the State Extension Conference, eleven Extension Agent and Agricultural Poultry Meetings, participated in the West Virginia State Poultry Convention Program, and assisted at the annual meeting of the Virginia State Poultry Federation.

(g) Publicity, Correspondence, and Reading Material: The writer wrote 37 news articles, gave 17 radio and two TV broadcasts, wrote the poultry part of a 4-H Project Guide Outline, helped prepare poultry information for the New Farm and Home Development Program and assisted agricultural engineers in the preparation of new poultry house plans showing interior arrangement of equipment. He also wrote 880 individual letters and ten circular letters in addition to the "Poultryman of Tomorrow" letter mentioned earlier in this report.

Educational poultry display at Atlantic Rural Exposition.



4-H and FFA members judging poultry in Atlantic Rural Interstate Contest.

IV. AT THE STATE LEVEL:

A. Several meetings were held with the men district agents before the plan of work for the year was completed. As discussed under some of the projects, a change was made whereby the Grow Healthy Pullet and Turkey program for commercial growers was left out of this year's program. Some of the district supervisors felt that too much time was spent in the county agent's office in signing and mailing out material to the growers. They also stated that the few records secured from the growers were not worth time and effort, especially since most feed contractors kept accurate records and were willing to let us use these whenever needed. After careful consideration, it was decided to prepare similar material and publish it in the Extension Service News.

The specialists have worked very closely with the women district agents in planning and carrying out the Leader Training Program of the Home Demonstration Clubs. The Junior Poultry Club Specialist has planned and carried out his work in close cooperation with the State 4-H Club workers.

B. The poultry specialists work very closely with the departments in closely related fields. They are constantly conferring with poultry pathologists, the farm building specialists in the Agricultural Engineering Department, and with the poultry products marketing men. In many of the field meetings men from these departments appear on the program with the poultry specialists.

C. It seems that there is an ever-increasing number of requests for questionnaires on all kinds of information relative to poultry to be answered. These come from many different sources, poultry workers in other states, some from Federal offices, and quite a few from commercial organizations. The necessary time is given to answering these and other requests for poultry information.

V. ASSISTANCE TO COUNTY EXTENSION WORKERS:

A. In visits to county extension workers late in the year, the specialists discussed with them the county poultry problems and the probable needs for assistance in poultry work the coming year.

B. When the Poultry Extension Plan of Work has been completed the specialists contacted the many county extension workers, either by mail or personal visit, to acquaint them with the work that has been planned and to encourage the agents to include in their program any of the projects applicable to the particular county.

C. In nearly all of the poultry schools the county committee or some other local organization was encouraged to cooperate in planning the program securing attendance and otherwise making the school a success.

D. The leader training program work as discussed on page 4 depended almost entirely on the training of leaders selected by the Home Demonstration Clubs. D. D. Bragg in his discussion of the 4-H Club work emphasizes the increased effort being made to secure and use additional volunteer local leaders in the junior program.

E. The leading devices used are discussed under each topic. The uses of the flannel board and the newer television programs are discussed rather fully by Lee Herrick and D. D. Bragg on pages 32 and 33.

F. In the Farm Flock Improvement work and the 4-H projects, definite records are required and these are discussed under the writeup of these topics.

G. State maps indicating where the work was carried in the State during the year are located on pages 2A, 14A, and

VI. CONTRIBUTIONS TO REGIONAL PROGRAMS:

Probably the greatest contribution to regional programs during the year was that of Denver Bragg being leader of the panel discussion on junior activities at the annual meeting of the Poultry Science Association and his assistance with the Atlantic Rural and Chicago Interstate 4-H Poultry Judging Contests. He also attended the 20th Anniversary Celebration of the Central Soybean Company at Ft. Wayne, Indiana, and the Past Finding Conference at Kansas City, where the juniors accompanying him put on a demonstration.

Lee W. Herrick attended the Pennsylvania Farm Show, the annual meeting of the American Poultry and Hatchery Federation Convention in Cleveland in July, and the Poultry Science Association meeting at Purdue.

A. L. Dean attended the Tenth World's Poultry Congress meeting at Edinburg, Scotland, and spent some time visiting several European countries.

H. L. Moore attended the meeting of the National Broiler Association in Cincinnati in March, the annual meeting of the Poultry Feed Conference Board at Raleigh, North Carolina, the dedication of Jull Hall and the Poultry Hall of Fame at College Park, Maryland, and the dedication of the Southern States feed mill and grain facilities at Seaford, Delaware.

VII. SPECIAL:

A. POULTRY IN THE FARM AND HOME DEVELOPMENT:

According to the data given at the bottom of page 4 of this report, about 81 percent of all the farms in Virginia had less than 200 laying hens, as reported in the 1950 census. It is likely that this figure has changed some in the last five years; however, we do know that by far the majority of the farms in the State keep fewer than 200 laying hens.

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This means that on the majority of the farms the layers are kept first, to provide eggs for the family needs, and second, to help buy the groceries after the family needs have been met.

Realizing this, the work with the leaders of the Home Demonstration Clubs, with the Farm Flock Improvement program, and with most of the 4-H Club projects, the emphasis has been placed on fitting poultry in with the 'farm and home' plan. In many sections particularly where there is not a very good outlet for eggs, the number of layers recommended has been determined to a considerable extent by the feed available on the farm.

While far too many commodity specialists think only of their own specialty in advising with farm people, quite a few of the better specialists are studying how their commodity fits in with the over-all farm program with the emphasis being placed on the 'farm and home' plan. This trend is likely to be considered by a great many more specialists now as more emphasis is being placed on the farm as a 'Family Unit.'

B. CASE HISTORY OF SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS:

The most outstanding accomplishments in the poultry extension work for the past year or so has been with the juniors. Below are given examples of a few individuals that have used their poultry projects as a means of improving their economic and social positions.

Kenneth Washburn

It has been about four years since the State 4-H Poultry Specialist and the Henry County Assistant Agent, R. S. Cofar, sat in a car at Martinsville and talked to the parents of Kenneth Washburn about his 4-H project work. At that time, Kenneth was roosting a dozen or so chickens in a building about the size of a large box. Mr. Washburn told the Extension workers that he disliked chickens, he did not think any money could be made from them, and as far as he was concerned, he did not care whether or not they had any on the place. Mrs. Washburn, although somewhat skeptical of the outcome, was interested in giving her son a chance to improve his project. Finances for needed improvement seemed to be a problem, but it was finally agreed that if Kenneth could obtain lumber from his grandparents on credit and would construct a 12 x 14 foot poultry house, the poultry specialist would get him 200 free chicks to put in the building the first time. This was done and about a year later a second 12 x 14 foot poultry house was constructed on the Washburn property close to the first. Later these two buildings were connected, making approximately a 12 x 38 foot structure suitable for housing about 115 layers. Besides the help and encouragement Kenneth received with the construction of his more or less crude poultry buildings which now includes a summer range shelter, he has been given help with poultry feeding and management practices and encouraged to participate in judging and demonstration activities, and other special poultry programs.

Today, because of his poultry club work, he has a nice bank account, a gold watch he won as a high individual in a poultry judging contest, a well-bred laying flock of about 100 birds, plans for entering V.P.I. next fall as a poultry major, memories of nice trips to Rannoke, Richmond, Chicago with other outstanding club members, and knowledge and experience which now enables him to make money from poultry, the thing his father said he could not do four years ago.

William A. Orr

The personal story of William A. Orr of Washington County, Virginia, is a case history of how another individual benefited from poultry extension work.

"I first came in contact with the 4-H Club when I was ten years old, but it was not until two years later that my interest really began to function. On our farm we have always kept chickens and since I was seven or eight, it has been one of my jobs to care for them. However, I did not start on my poultry project until about five years ago. When I was fourteen, my father and I decided that maybe I could make some profit on a hatching egg project. As a result of this, with my father's help, I enlarged our old 10 x 12 foot laying house to 10 x 52. I placed in this building a hundred pullets which I had brooded in an old smoke house, but soon after they began to lay, fate entered the scene and the pullets took Newcastle disease. This resulted in a loss on my first 4-H poultry project but taught me the value of vaccination and good sanitation.

"I was still determined to make a success to some degree with poultry, so the following spring, despite, my parents pessimistic advice, I got a contract with another hatchery closer home and started 800 New Hampshire chicks. These were brooded under a homemade electric brooder which I built and I only lost eight of these chicks when they were twelve weeks old. While the pullets from these chicks were on range, I enlarged the house to triple the capacity, doing most all the building work myself. With over 300 hens, I made a profit which paid for enlarging the house.

"The following year, I built a much needed brooder house and some range shelters. I brooded 790 chicks, 546 of these birds entered the laying house, and for the first eight months, they averaged 65 percent production. This paid for my house improvements and got me out of debt for the first time. This flock of pullets was ranged on Ladino pasture, seeded in cooperation with the Plant Food Industry program, which the county agent and 4-H Poultry Specialist helped me get on.

"In January 1953, I got a contract to sell hatching eggs to one of the largest hatcheries in Georgia. This market averaged me 94 cents per dozen for the year, over 15 cents higher than the price paid by local hatcheries. In the spring of 1953, I brooded 1100 chicks; 500 of them

went into the laying house and produced well throughout the year. This spring (1954), I brooded enough pullets to fill my house to a capacity of 650 birds. I have automatic waterers, dropping pits, clock controlled electricity, and straw lofts in my two houses, all of which I installed myself.

"I have attended poultry classes at the State 4-H Short Course, been a member of the county 4-H poultry judging team, exhibited and won ribbons on poultry at local fairs, and have served for the last two years as a poultry judge at the tobacco festival fair in Abingdon. In 1952 I was awarded a trip to the Virginia State Poultry Federation at Roanoke, and in 1953 I was a district winner in the Poultryman of Tomorrow Contest. I am now going to Emory and Henry College but have continued my 4-H projects since I am a day student near home."

"It has been the income from these 4-H projects that has paid my way through Emory and Henry. I have also used this income to buy my clothes, for spending money, and to increase and improve my 4-H projects."

"My experiences and achievements in poultry projects have been invaluable to me. They have given me a means of enjoyment and a way of spending leisure time to my advantage, but most of all, poultry work has given me my first taste of making ends meet and of balancing a budget. Through my 4-H poultry work, I have learned to handle money, to keep books, to meet people in the business world, and to shop for better markets, and to try to be a better manager. I have learned new and better ways of doing things through my 4-H guidance. My poultry project has been largely responsible for my going to college for it is from this income that I am paying my own way through college. Poultry has given me enjoyment, both from working with it and from trips that have resulted from it. My poultry projects have made me realize that if projects are well managed they will produce profitably. My 4-H work in poultry has brought me knowledge, experience, income, and enjoyment. In my opinion, 4-H poultry projects have been one of the most influential factors in the development of my personality and character."

VIII. SUMMARY OF POULTRY SPECIALISTS' ACTIVITIES:

During the year three poultry specialists devoted their full time to extension activities. Another man gave one-fourth time to teaching and three-fourths to extension work.

The men were in the office 478 days during which time they wrote 2362 individual letters, prepared 44 circular letters of which 53,536 copies were distributed. They wrote 98 news articles, 37 special or feature articles, prepared and gave 61 radio programs and 7 television shows.

Some 1686 bulletins and 652 blueprint plans for poultry buildings were sent upon request. Two leaders manuals were prepared and 383 copies given out. Each of the specialists attended about 12 meetings at headquarters.

In the 603 days given to field work, the specialists have visited 349 demonstrations and made 350 other individual farm visits, have assisted in 82 county or community adult meetings which were attended by about 3246 people and 26 4-H Club meetings attended by 841 juniors. About 93,428 miles were traveled in carrying on the poultry extension program.

Some 24 adult leader training meetings attended by 387 adults and eleven junior leader training meetings attended by 214 were held.



Commercial poultrymen are interested in better houses at less cost. This is the picture of a house that is 40' deep that has a driveway through the center and a ridge ventilator.

Record of Performance records are very helpful in improving both meat and production qualities. This picture shows the official weighing of ROP turkey candidates.



Labor saving devices are essential in the profitable production of poultry products. This man has devised a practical method of supplying water to turkeys on pallets on range.

STATISTICAL REPORT OF EXTENSION POULTRY SPECIALISTS, 1954

	<u>L. W.</u> <u>Herrick</u>	<u>A. L.</u> <u>Dean</u>	<u>H. L.</u> <u>Moore</u>	<u>D. D.</u> <u>Bragg</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Individual Letters	266	362	1,054	680	2,362
News Articles	26	18	17	37	98
Radio Programs	16	4	24	17	61
TV Programs	5	-	-	2	7
Special or Feature Articles	2	17	18	-	37
Circular Letters Prepared	2	20	1	21	44
Leaflets Prepared	-	-	-	-	-
Bulletins Prepared	-	-	1	-	1
Mimeograph Material Distributed	90	3,585	144	382	4,201
Circular Letters Distributed	30	9,874	33	43,599	53,536
Bulletins or Circulars Distributed	192	761	505	228	1,686
Blueprint Plans Distributed	46	345	201	60	692
Leader Manuals Distributed	-	10	373	-	383
Other Conferences: Office	131	15	227	43	416
Field	96	24	25	61	166
Conferences with Individual Agents	167	28	16	105	316
Farm or Home Visits	249	54	32	15	350
Result Demonstrations Visited Adult	70	259	12	8	349
Tours or Field Days	-	-	4	14	18
Talks to Groups	15-224	11-198	14-337	18-406	58-1165
Result Demonstrations Visited 4-H	-	23	-	171	194
Poultry Schools	7-232	23-315*	22-558	4-38	56-1143**
Demonstrations Given	2	5	5	3	15
Planning Meetings or Conferences	21-275	7-23	11-207	32-116	71-621
4-H Club Meetings	-	3-30	-	23-811	26-841
4-H Judging and Demonstration Meetings	2-60	16-104	-	50-512	68-676
Camps and Short Course Meetings	3-76	3-455	1-96	12-141	19-768
Meetings Attended:					
Extension Agents or Ag. Fac.	9-806	9-503	17-1386	11-960	46-3655
Leader Training - Adult	1-60	13-204	10-123	-	24-387
4-H	-	3-156	-	8-58	11-214
Institute of Rural Affairs	-	1,500	1,500	-	3,000
Nutrition School	1-60	-	3-146	-	4-206
Other Educational Meetings Attended	4-5025	29-4962	11-2115	7-11609**	51-23711**
Fairs (judging or other assistance)	4	7	3	9	23
Inspectors School	-	-	1-48	-	1-48
Days in Office	123	136	127.5	91.5	478
Days in Field	157.5	148	97	200.5	603
Annual Leave	26.5	23.5	28	7	85
Days Leave Without Pay	-	-	-	-	-
Miles Traveled	22,166	33,150	10,893	27,219	93,428
Sick Leave	1	6.5	1.5	7.5	16.5
Holidays	3.5	3.5	4	2	13
College	-	-	56	-	56
Holidays Worked	-	-	-	-	1

*This includes 20 meetings held by A. L. Dean that do not come under the definition "School" as it is used in the Program of Work and this report.

**This includes one meeting attended by 10,000 people.



FOR COLD WEATHER—An immersion type water heater (left photo) keeps the water at 45 to 59° at all times even in the coldest weather. It permits the layers to have plenty of water when the morning lights go on, with no extra trouble for the flock owner. Right photo, this small laying house has a feed sack curtain tacked above the window for lowering in cold weather. A 1 x 3 in. board is fastened through the bottom of the curtain to hold it down. The curtain is easily lowered or raised by a rope through a pulley. All the spaces between the rafters, plate and roof are open.

Cold Weather Calls for Planning, Cleaning, Repairing for Poultry

L. W. Herrick

Winter will soon be here and some preparing and planning should be made before cold weather arrives. The houses used for layers, broilers and winter brooding should be repaired where necessary, especially the windows and other openings. Range equipment should be cleaned, repaired and stored in a dry place so that it will last longer.

Make plans now to keep the birds comfortable as the weather becomes cooler. Provide enough ventilation in the poultry house to keep

the air fresh, the humidity low and the litter dry. Drafts are as unpleasant to all kinds of poultry as they are to man and should be kept at a minimum. Birds move out of drafts and when houses are extremely drafty, they often crowd into the small draft-free areas. In extreme cases this has resulted in smothering some birds. It often works well to close 3 sides of the poultry house tight, leaving openings on the fourth side, which would be either the south or east side. Openings between the rafters, plate and roof help considerably where provided on one side. At least this much ventilation should be provided at all times, as the house should never be closed tight. Many newer wide houses with an A roof have a ridge ventilator from end to end. The ventilator may be closed partly or entirely

as needed with hinged boards built into the ventilator.

Place at least 3 inches of litter in the house before the summer pullets are housed and add more litter once or twice a month until it is 6 inches or more deep. Deep litter helps keep the house dry when combined with other good management practices such as ample ventilation, enough floor space, non-leaking roofs and water fountains.

Prepare the water system for cold weather. Electric heating tape covering pipes that might otherwise freeze may permit the use of automatic waterers throughout the winter. It is especially important that laying hens always have water available. A submersion type water heater may be used in large drinking fountains or water

Bruising Turkeys Means Money Lost

By L. W. Herrick

Bruised turkeys cost the producer money. The processor must sell them at a lower price and this is reflected back to the producer. On first thought, the producer may feel that once a buyer agrees to take the flock at a certain price, whatever happens to the flock after then is the buyer's loss. The buyer of course does pay for the flock as agreed and may lose on that particular flock, but he will make this loss up on later flocks. In determining what to pay any producer, buyers and processors either consider the average grade received from all producers or the grade received from that individual producer in the past, or examines the flock before buying.

One processor has stated that there are less bruised turkeys in a flock that is paid for by weight at the plant. In this case the turkeys belong to the producer until weighed in at the plant and he can see that the hauler and catchers handle the birds with more care. Where the hauler is hired by the processor, who is miles away from the loading operation, neither processor nor producer can do too much towards insisting on careful handling. Birds are very easily bruised in the loading operation, especially the wing tips and keels.

A producer would find it very educational to watch his own birds being processed and see how they look after being dressed.

Turkeys should be handled carefully at all times. Grade C birds usually bring about one-half as much as Grade A birds. Some causes of bruises are (1) crowding growing birds, (2) cannibalism, (3) fighting, (4) flying from high roosts, (5) using crates too small, (6) placing too many birds in a crate, (7) roughness in catching, handling, removing from crates, and (8) stampeding. Cannibalism is more of a problem with white feathered birds and with birds in confinement and can be stopped by de-beaking. Giving the birds more space, using turkey bits or pig rings, and feeding greens or good quality baled alfalfa hay sometimes helps. Bruises caused by flying can be reduced by wing notching the birds.

Although bruises and abrasions are probably the chief causes of low grades, other causes include (1) lack of finish, (2) excessive pinfeathers, (3) deformities, (4) breast blisters, and (5) poor dressing, resulting in improper bleeding, torn skin, hard scald, broken legs and wings, and skin abrasions.

The producer can often improve the finish and pinfeather length by holding the flock an extra week or two. There is a definite pinfeather cycle and if the pinfeathers are short, waiting two or three weeks will improve this condition. Deformities may be caused by disease, poor management, poorly formulated feeds or possibly heredity. Breast blisters may be caused by injuries and are more of a problem in heavy birds and in birds on wire or slat platforms.

SUMMARY
PULLET PRODUCTION FIGURES OF LAYING FLOCK DEMONSTRATORS - 1953

Flock Number	Average		Range	
	1952(6)	1953(7)	1952(6)	1953(7)
Chicks Bought - No.	300	392	300	225-1070
Date	3/20	3/23	3/14-3/21	1/7-4/23
Breed				
Cost Per Chick	26.5¢	25.4¢	19-34¢	19-30¢
Mortality, Percent	-	7.0%	-	1-21.8%
Fuel Used - Kind				
Cost Per Chick	8¢	3.6¢	6-10¢	0.9-13.3¢
Total Cost to Raise Flock	\$430.21	\$572.75	\$425.00 to \$435.42	\$233.66 to \$1466.97
Receipts from Birds Sold or Raised at Home	-	\$39.38	-	None to \$78.84
Cost - Receipts	-	\$551.70	-	\$232.75 to \$1436.79
Number Pullets Housed	250	280	240-260	148 to 800
Cost Per Pullet	\$1.72	\$1.85	\$1.53 to \$1.81	\$1.18 to \$2.66
First Egg - Date	8/19	8/13	8/13 to 8/25	5/18 to 9/19
Age in Months & Days	4-30	4-19	4-25 to 5-4	3-23 to 5-9

(6) = Two Records
(7) = Eleven Records

PULLET PRODUCTION FIGURES OF LAYING FLOCK DEMONSTRATORS - 1953

Flock Number	1.	2.	3.(1)	4.(2)	5.(1)	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.
Chicks Bought - No.	300	225	300	275	300	340	450	255	1070	600	275	225	300
Date	3/13/53	4/2	3/19/52	3/24	3/21/52	1/7	4/7	4/16	3/25	4/17	3/11	3/17	4/23
Breed	R. Rock	W. Leg. c _x	W. Leg. c _x	W. L.-N.H.	R. I. R	N. H.	W. Leg. c _x	W. Leg. c _x	W. Leg. c _x	W. Rock(3)	R. I. R.	R. I. R.	R. Rock
Cost per chick	21¢	28¢	34¢	21¢	19¢	23¢	38¢	33¢	29¢	19¢	24¢	24¢	19¢
Mortality, Percent	1%	2.2%	5.3%	21.8%	-	5.5%	2.2%	10%	8.1%	5.0%	12.7%	5.3%	1.5%
Fuel Used - Kind	Elec.	Oil	Elec.	Inf. Red	Wood	Wood	Elec.	Elec.	Oil	Elec.	Elec.	Elec.	Inf. Red
Cost per chick	1.33¢	4.2¢	6¢	3.6¢	10¢	2.9¢	3.3¢	0.5¢	2.2¢	3.2¢	2.7¢	1.5¢	13.3¢
Total Cost to Raise Flock	\$255.80(4)	\$300.32	\$425.00	\$250.25	\$435.42	\$56.44	\$831.55	\$406.01	\$1466.79	\$927.72	\$514.23	\$233.66	\$466.50
Receipts from Birds Sold or Raised at Home	- (4)	\$47.68	-	\$57.50	-	-	-	None	\$30.00	\$78.84	\$22.50	\$39.13	-
Cost - Receipts	- (4)	\$252.64	-	\$232.75	-	-	-	\$406.01	\$1436.79	\$848.88	\$491.73	\$194.53	-
Number Pullets Housed	147	148	260	150	240	313	-	230	800	450	225	105	175
Cost Per Pullet	\$1.81	\$1.71	\$1.63	\$1.55	\$1.81(5)	\$1.90	-	\$1.77	\$1.80	\$1.82	\$2.19	\$1.18	\$2.66(5)
First Egg - Date	7/31	8/21	8/13	8/27	8/25	5/18	7/30	5/3	8/10	9/19	8/20	7/29	9/16
Age-Mo. & Days	4-18	4-17	4-25	4-3	5-4	4-11	3-23	4-17	4-15	5-2	5-9	4-12	4-24

 c_x = Sexed Pullet Chicks

(1) = 1952 Record

(2) = N.H. Used for Meat

(3) = Part Straight Run, Part Sized Pullets

(4) = Receipts of Birds Considered in Figuring Total Cost

(5) = Includes Considerable Hired Labor

(6) = Two Records

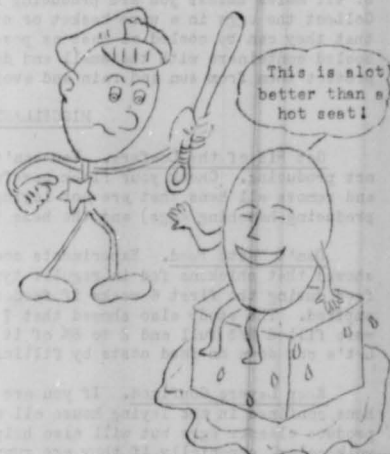
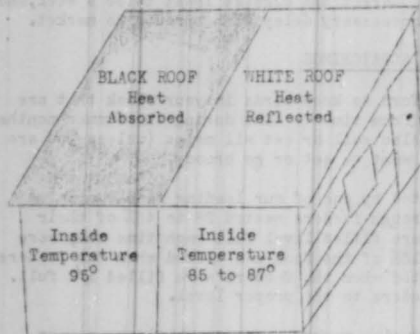
(7) = Eleven Records

V.P.I. Agricultural
Extension Service

STATE OF VIRGINIA

County Agent Work
June 8, 1954

HINTS FOR TOMORROW'S POULTRYMEN



Give Your Chickens A Comfortable Home.

Keep Eggs Cool.

REDUCE LOSSES DUE TO SUMMER HEAT

Try to prevent your poultry flock from becoming overheated during the hot summer months. Remember that a hot, poorly ventilated poultry house, or the lack of shade or enough water may cause a drop in egg production, poor growth, and sometimes death.

There are several things that can be done to reduce losses due to hot weather. One of the best things to do might be to reduce the amount of heat that goes through the roof of your building by insulating the ceiling or by painting the roof with a white, heat-resisting roof paint. Even the insulated roof will be cooler and last longer with a heat-reflecting covering. The best white roof covering is probably an aluminum asphalt paint prepared for this purpose. Another thing you can do to help protect your birds from the hot weather would be to open all windows, and, if necessary, even make extra openings on the north side in order to allow for a greater movement of air through your building. Still another thing you can do would be to put additional watering vessels in the house and keep them filled so as to make it easier for your birds to get plenty of clean, cool water. Also give your chickens sufficient floor space. Remember, your birds work and grow better when they are comfortable.

MARKET HIGH QUALITY EGGS

High quality eggs bring top prices and increase sales. You should handle them in such a way as to get them to your customers in the best shape possible. They will absorb odors and cannot stand warm temperatures or rough treatment. Gather your eggs 3 times a day during the summer months and keep them in a cool, moist place away from onions, kerosene, and other such products where the temperature is somewhere between 50 and 65° F. until they are ready to be sold. Provide at least one nest for every 5 birds, and produce clean eggs by keeping the hens out of their night droppings, the litter dry and the nests filled with plenty of clean, dry nesting material. Dispose of all males unless you are producing hatching eggs. Keep broody hens off the nests. Collect the eggs in a wire basket or other container that air can pass through so that they can be cooled as fast as possible. Peck sound-shelled eggs in clean pre-cooled containers with the small end down. Market the eggs at least twice a week, and protect them from sun and rain and avoid unnecessary delay when enroute to market.

MISCELLANEOUS SCRATCHINGS

Get Rid of the Loafers. You can't afford to keep birds in your flock that are not producing. Check your flock carefully from time to time during the summer months and remove all hens that are not laying. Also sell or set all males (unless you are producing hatching eggs) and the hens that went to set or go broody.

Don't Waste Feed. Experiments conducted by one of our leading feed companies showed that chickens fed in regular type trough feeders wasted 28 to 45% of their feed during the first 6 weeks if feeders were filled level full each time they were emptied. The study also showed that 7 to 15% of the feed was wasted when the feeders were filled 2/3 full and 2 to 5% of it wasted when the feeders were filled 1/2 full. Let's cut down on feed costs by filling feeders to the proper level.

Keep Layers Confined. If you are producing market eggs you should keep your hens confined in the laying house all or most of the time. It will not only help you produce cleaner eggs but will also help you to produce eggs that have a more desirable yolk color, especially if they are running out on grass. If the weather is good and you have a clean ground for them to run on, you can let them out a little while in the afternoon, but always keep them up at least until noon so they will have an opportunity to eat enough mash for maximum egg production.

Let's Enter the State Egg Grading Contest. The State Egg Grading Contest will be held at Blacksburg during the State 4-H Short Course, June 21 to 26. Any county in the State can enter a team of 2 members in this contest which provides an all-expense trip to the NEPCO Exposition at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, for the winner. All you have to do is grade 30 eggs for size and condition and candle 20 other eggs to determine interior quality. Names and addresses of contestants, who must be at least 14 years of age, should be sent to D. D. Bragg, V.P.I. Poultry Department prior to June 12. Let's hear from you if you are interested.

Yours truly,

County Agent

OPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COOPERATING

V. P. I. Agricultural
Extension Service

STATE OF VIRGINIA

March 10, 1964

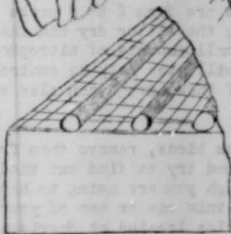
Blacksburg, Virginia
County Agent Work

HINTS FOR TOMORROW'S POULTRYMEN

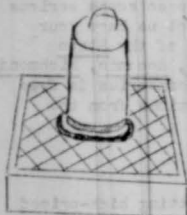
THAT'S GOLD IN
THEIR TEETH



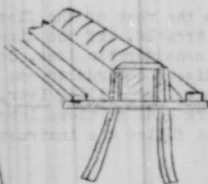
SELL A QUALITY
PRODUCT



USE COVERED MANURE
PITS FOR REPLACEMENT
PULLETS AND ADULT BIRDS



PLACE WATERERS ON
RAISED PLATFORM AS
SOON AS POSSIBLE



ELEVATE FEEDERS AS
THE BIRDS GROW OLDER

GIVE YOUR BIRDS A CHANCE TO GO UP IN THE WORLD

PROVIDE YOUR CHICKS WITH HEALTHY SURROUNDINGS.

Poultry and egg prices will not likely be quite as high as they were last year; but feed prices are also down a little in most areas and most of you poultry club members can still make a profit on your project--especially if you raise 95 to 100 percent of your chicks. However, in order to do this, you must not only start with healthy, disease-free chicks and give them plenty of good feed and water, but you must also provide them with a comfortable home and healthy surroundings. As soon as the chicks are big enough, raise the food hoppers and watering vessels a few inches off the floor so that they will not collect litter or other dirt. Place watering vessels on wire platforms and, if movable, change their location from time to time to prevent wet areas around them. Remember, parasites do best where there is moisture and alot of droppings. Don't crowd your chicks--allow at least 3/4 of a square

foot floor space per bird up through broiler age. Stir the litter frequently and add a little lime and/or new litter when necessary to help keep it dry. Also check openings in front of the house to provide the chicks with plenty of fresh air at all times, but keep the other three sides of the building fairly tight so as to prevent the chicks from being in a draft.

Keep your young and old birds separated. Never allow the young and old birds to be housed in the same pen or run on the same ground. Old birds will shove the young birds away from the feed and watering vessels and they may also carry disease, worms, or other parasites which will affect the young birds.

Coccidiosis is one of the diseases that generally shows up and does the most harm when the chicks are from 2 to 6 weeks of age. This disease can generally be prevented by keeping the litter dry and the birds comfortable and well fed. Feeding a mash containing small amounts of nitrophenide or one of the sulfa drugs during this danger period will also help to control this disease. Mash containing little larger quantities of these drugs can also be purchased for the treatment of this disease.

If you have sick birds, remove them from the rest of the flock. Put them in a coop to themselves and try to find out their trouble. If the disease seems serious and it looks as though you are going to have considerable loss, let us know your trouble and send or take one or two of your diseased birds to one of the State Diagnostic Laboratories located at Harrisonburg, Lytheville, Iver, Accomac, Richmond, Blacksburg, and Warrenton. The diagnostic work done at these laboratories is free and once you find out your trouble, be sure to follow the instructions from the laboratory and act immediately.

CONTINUE TO CULL THE LAYING FLOCK.

Check your laying flock carefully to see that you are not putting high-priced feed into poor layers. Whenever you spot a hen that is out of production—one that is molting or has a pale shriveled comb and/or yellow pigment in the beak or legs—you should remove her from the flock. Broody hens, especially those that have gone broody for a second time, should also be sold or eaten. Continuous culling not only reduces your feed costs but also often removes unthrifty and less vigorous birds which may be a source of disease infection for the rest of the flock. Try to get at least 80 percent production from your birds. Feed your hens a good well-balanced ration—give them all they will eat—then try to see to it that each one of them pays for her feed.

Yours truly,

County Agent

GLOUCESTER COUNTY POULTRY COMMITTEE

W. D. Weaver, Chairman
Robert Hutcheson, Sec.-Treas.
T. L. Benson
Alfred Birkhofer
Dorothy Dutton
W. R. Chapman
Billy Field
Henry Teagle
A. G. Birdsall, County Agent

Clay Bank, Virginia
Gloucester, Virginia
Ware Neck, Virginia
Gloucester, Virginia
Gloucester, Virginia
Wan, Virginia
Gloucester, Virginia
Bellamy, Virginia
Gloucester, Virginia

MIDDLESEX COUNTY POULTRY COMMITTEE

Gordon S. Mercer, Chairman
Garland Payne, Vice-Chairman
A. M. DeBusk, Sec., Co. Agt.
H. L. Marchant
George M. Parker, Jr.
R. H. Phillips
Robert L. Jones
F. W. Bennett

Topping, Virginia
Hartfield, Virginia
Saluda, Virginia
Healys, Virginia
Water View, Virginia
Wake, Virginia
Deltaville, Virginia
Stormont, Virginia

MATHEWS COUNTY POULTRY COMMITTEE

Waverly White, Chairman
Robert Lewis, Secretary
E. H. Sadler
Bobby Hughes
Tom Kemp
E. L. Phillips, County Agent

Dixie, Virginia
Dutton, Virginia
Dixie, Virginia
Dixie, Virginia
Dutton, Virginia
Mathews, Virginia

Tidewater Regional Poultry Meeting

BOTETOURT SCHOOL GYMNASIUM
Gloucester, Virginia

January 6, 1954



SPONSORED BY

County Agricultural Extension Service

and

County Poultry Committees of Gloucester, Mathews, Middlesex, York, City of Hampton, and City of Warwick.

Cooperating Counties - New Kent, Charles City, James City King & Queen, King William, and Essex.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS, VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND THE USDA COOPERATING.....

Tidewater Regional

PROGRAM OF EVENTS

Presiding W. D. Weaver, Chairman

- 9:55 A.M. Invocation Rev. O. G. Burnett
- 10:00 A.M. "What Breeds Will Be Used for Egg and Broiler Production" A. L. Dean
Assoc. Ext. Poultry Husbandman, V.P.I.
- 10:30 A.M. Discussion
- 10:40 A.M. "Recent Developments in the Progress of Poultry Diseases" Dr. E. P. Johnson
Pathologist, Va. Agri. Experiment Station
- 11:10 A.M. Discussion
- 11:20 A.M. "Poultry Outlook"- Dr. Robert J. C. Krueger
Associate Agricultural Economist, V.P.I.
- 11:50 A.M. Discussion
- 12:00 NOON "State Poultry Federation and Poultry Industry" Baker Jones
President, Va. State Poultry Federation
- 12:30 P.M. LUNCH FREE
- 1:45 P.M. FORUM
Hollis Shomo, Moderator
Supervisor, Division of Markets, Richmond
- "Feeding Pullets Up to Six Months" . . . Robert Hatcheson
- "Community Nests and Handling Eggs" . . . Hollis Shomo
- "Litter and Ventilation" J. P. Miller
- "Maintaining Level Egg Production" . . . Robert Shaeffer
- 2:45 P.M. ADJOURNMENT

THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS

- Quaker Oats Company
- W. L. Horsley & Son
- Woodberry-Poultry Farm
- W. D. Weaver
- Gloucester Chick Hatchery
- A. Birkhofer
- Denbigh Feed Company
- R. K. Yoder
- General Mills - Larro Feeds

- Bellamy, Va.
- Clay Bank, Va.
- Gloucester, Va.
- Denbigh, Va.
- Richmond, Va.

TIDEWATER REGIONAL POULTRY OFFICERS

- 1953
- Chairman - W. D. Weaver
- Vice-Chairman - R. K. Yoder
- Sec.-Treas. - R. F. Hatcheson

- Clay Bank, Va.
- Denbigh, Va.
- Gloucester, Va.

POULTRY SCHOOL

It's time
to get your
Poultry facts



49

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1954

AUDITORIUM OF CULPEPER MUNICIPAL BUILDING

10:00 A. M. - 3:00 P. M.

POULTRY COMMITTEE

Mr. R. D. Stewart, Chr. - - - - Culpeper, Va.
 Miss Gladys Arms, Sec.-Treas. - - - - - Novum, Va.
 Mr. & Mrs. J. D. Collins - - - - - Batina Rt.
 Culpeper, Va.
 Mr. H. R. Christensen - - - - - Rt. #2,
 Culpeper, Va.
 Mrs. J. C. Geil - - - - - Winston, Va.
 Mr. S. C. Broyles - - - - - Culpeper, Va.
 Mr. John Hill - - - - - Culpeper, Va.
 Mr. Claude T. Hitt - - - - - Brandy, Va.
 Mr. Walton Loving, Jr. - - - - - Culpeper, Va.
 Mr. R. S. Chilton, Sr. - - - - - Jeffersonton, Va.

POULTRY SCHOOL PROGRAM

10:00 A. M. - Introductory Remarks - Bob Stewart, Chr.
 Poultry Committee
 10:15 A. M. - How I Brood My Chicks - R. S. Chilton, ●
 10:30 A. M. - How I Handle My Layers - Mrs. Wm. Jones
 10:45 A. M. - Some Things to Remember When Brooding
 Chicks - L. W. Herrick, Jr. Associate
 Extension Poultry Husbandman, V.P.I.
 Blacksburg, Virginia
 11:15 A. M. - Some Points In Old Hen Management -
 Harry L. Moore, Poultry Husbandman,
 V.P.I. Blacksburg
 12:00 - Lunch - Courtesy of Loving's Hatchery,
 Triplett Milling Co., Culpeper
 Farmers' Cooperative, and
 Triplett Milling Company.
Judgment Broilers
 Benefit of Culpeper County 4-H Council
 1:00 P. M. - Posting Demonstration - Lee Herrick
 Harry L. Moore
 2:00 P.M. - Poultry Buildings and Equipment -
 G. D. Kite, Assoc. Ext. Engineer,
 V.P.I. Blacksburg, Va.
 2:30 P.M. - Question Period