

NOTTOWAY COUNTY

HOME ECONOMICS PLAN OF WORK

1961

ELISE V. NOEL
HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENT

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I. COUNTY SITUATION

Nottoway County lies in the southeastern part of the Piedmont Plateau, between the Tidewater and Blue Ridge District, where the rolling land varies in altitude from 200 to 600 feet. It is bordered on the north by Amelia County, on the east by Dinwiddie County, on the south by Lunenburg and Brunswick Counties, and on the west by Prince Edward County

There are 308 square miles, or 197,120 acres, less 29,862 acres in Camp Pickett.

The population of Nottoway County is about 15,047 persons. Fifty-six and one-tenth percent are white and forty-three and nine-tenths percent are non-white. Thirty-five percent of the total population are rural farm, forty-two and two-tenths percent rural non-farm, and twenty-two and eight-tenths percent urban.

The sandy clay and sandy loam soils are adapted to general farm crops. Flue-cured and dark-fired tobacco are the principal cash crops. In recent years, dairying, poultry and livestock have greatly increased. Dairying is the second largest source of farm income in the county, with flue-cured tobacco the leading source.

There were 1089 farms in Nottoway County in 1954, and 749 farms in 1959, with the majority operated by white farmers. The average size of farms is 136 acres.

Forests and wood products also mean much to the county's economy. Sawmills are scattered throughout the county and a veneer plant is located at Burkeville. There are also quarries for granite, gravel, crushed stone and some deposits of brick clay and mica.

In addition to the county seat at Nottoway Courthouse, the three small towns are Blackstone, 3,536; Crewe 2,250; and Burkeville, about 700.

A velvet plant and garment factory are located in Blackstone. In Crewe are the Norfolk and Western Railway yards and office, a garment factory and headquarters of the Southside Electric Cooperative. Since the addition of diesel engines on the Norfolk and Western Railway many employees in Crewe have been without work and the future is uncertain at this time for employment for many in that area.

A county health department is located at Nottoway with one doctor and two nurses, a sanitation officer and clerk. The Piedmont Sanatorium for negro tubercular patients is located near Burkeville. There are several physicians, dentists, optometrists and a chiropractor who practice medicine in Nottoway County.

A radio station is located in Blackstone and one in Crewe. Also each of these towns has a local paper which serves it's area.

The people are public spirited and are active in church, school, and civic organizations. There are a large number of organizations in the county and oftentimes it is quite difficult to schedule meetings without several conflicts.

There are twenty-two 4-H clubs in the county with a membership of over 500. All but four clubs meet in school during school hours. There are eight home demonstration clubs which reach women in all sections of the county. The membership has remained stable but as opportunities for work become available, the time of holding meetings had to be considered.

II. COUNTY EXTENSION PROGRAM - ADULT

A. Organization

1. County Agricultural Extension Service Board.

There are several committees which form a part of this board. They are: Agronomy, Dairy, Forestry, Farm and Home Lighting, Poultry and 4-H Club. The Forestry Committee has met to map out plans for the year, but the other committees have not met for 1961.

The agents plan to meet with the Lighting Committee in promoting the 4-H Electric project and continue emphasis on better lighting.

There is an Advisory Youth Committee which helps plan programs and activities for the 4-H members primarily. This committee is composed of the County 4-H Council, adult leaders, parents and representatives of the press.

The agent plans to make an effort to reorganize some committees and make a more thorough study of the county's need, and form new committees as needed.

2. County Home Demonstration Committee.

The Nottoway County Home Demonstration Club Committee is composed of the presidents and program development chairmen of each club. Also, the county officers of the County Committee.

This committee will meet twice during the year, in winter and June. It will meet to plan county and district events, and work out the programs for the home demonstration clubs.

At the winter meeting of this committee training is given the program of work chairmen and program development leaders.

ADULT WORK

B. SUBJECT MATTER - CLOTHING

<u>Problem</u>	<u>Topics to be included</u>	<u>Number of Clubs</u>
To know how to use and care for modern fabrics.	Modern Fabrics and Their Care	8 Clubs
Why it is important to know how to dress well	Dressing to Suit All Occasions	8 Clubs
	Making Hats	1 group

<u>Goals</u>	<u>What People Are to Learn</u>	<u>Plans for Carrying out Program and Measuring Results</u>	<u>Results</u>
To learn the type of fabrics and how to care for them.	How to identify fabrics by types	Hold a leader training meeting in December by clothing specialist on Fabrics & Dressing to Suit all Occasions.	
To learn how to be well dressed	How to dress well & to plan a wardrobe which would meet the need of any occasion	Leaders and agent give demonstrations in January & February on above topics.	
	How to make hats	Hold special interest meeting on Making Hats with specialist's help.	
		Publicize work in newspapers and over radio stations.	
		Have check sheet to evaluate program at end of the year.	

FOOD

<u>Problem</u>	<u>Topics to Be Included</u>	<u>Number Clubs</u>
Providing attractive and nutritious foods for the family, but save the homemaker time and energy	Quick Tricks with Mixes	8
	Food Supplies for Emergencies	8
	Proper Diets & Good Looks for Teenagers	8
	Foods and Health	8
	Short Cuts in Candy Making	8

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<u>Goals</u>	<u>What People Are to Learn</u>	<u>Plans for Carrying Out Program and Measuring Results</u>	<u>Notes on Results Adj. & Accom.</u>
Improve Skill in Preparing foods.	How to use prepared mixes in preparing meals	Leader training meetings on the topics included in the program by the food specialist and agent.	
To know better methods of food preparation	How to plan menus for emergencies and the food supply which can be kept as a reserve.	Leaders present demonstrations at monthly meetings Use printed matter to help homemakers have necessary information close at hand.	
To know more about nutrition and its relation to health	How to plan nutritious meals for the family and attractive ways of serving them	Have members report on work done at the end of the year.	

HOME MANAGEMENT

<u>Problem</u>	<u>Topics to be Included</u>	<u>Number clubs</u>
How homemakers can make better use of appliances to save time.	Use of the Sewing Machine Budget Your Time Care of Small Appliances	8 8 8

<u>Goals</u>	<u>What People Are to Learn</u>	<u>Plans for Carrying out Program and Measuring Results</u>	<u>Notes on Results Adj. & Accom.</u>
To know the proper care and maintenance of sewing machine & small electrical Appliances.	H.w to use the sewing machine to get better results from attachments. Proper Care of the Sewing Machind How to plan activities for better use of time.	1. Leader Training meetings will be held by the agent on Use of Sewing Machines. This topic to be given at the March meetings.	
To be able to plan ahead for activities which will enable the homemaker to save time and energy.	How to make simple repairs in small appliances	2. Specialists will hold leader training on Budget Your Time, and Care of Small Appliances. These demonstrations to obe in May and June. 3. Agent make home visits and assist homemakers in management problems.	

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C. Other Activities

1. National Home Demonstration Week

The clubs will observe National Home Demonstration Week by having news articles and radio talks on the work. The club members will plan for the District Federation Meeting, which will be held sometime near National Home Demonstration Week.

A county-wide luncheon will be held for members and guests. This meeting will be to review the work, exchange ideas on club activities, and become better acquainted with other members.

2/ Federation Program of Work.

The Program of Work in 1961 is Art in Daily Living. Emphasis will be on Wildflowers, and Art. Three meetings will be devoted to the discussion of Wildflowers, Art, and Music. In the late spring a tour is planned for the members to visit the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond.

The objective of this work will be to appreciate art and be able to use it in daily living.

3. Institute of Rural Affairs.

Members will be encouraged to attend the state meeting and Institute of Rural Affairs. In the past, those who have attended have brought back new information on club work to the members. Attendance at this meeting will help club members understand better the services of the college and extension as well as exchange ideas with members from other counties.

E. Farm and Home Development

The agents have been working with ten families and would like to double this number in 1961.

The agents will work with the Agricultural and Home Economics Council in studying the County situation, and thereby have a committee to locate additional families. Home visits will be made to the families and a record kept on progress with each family. The agents will have to evaluate work now being done and plan for further emphasis on this phase.

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III. COUNTY EXTENSION PROGRAM - Youth

A. Organization

I. County 4-H Council

This council is made up of all the officers of each of the twenty-two 4-H clubs and the Honor Club. Adult leaders serve as advisors. There are over 140 members. This group meets three to four times each year. The first meeting is held in the fall after clubs re-organization for the purpose of training in parliamentary procedure and setting up county goals. Also, to plan for the Achievement program.

At other meetings plans are worked out for county contests, Rural Life Sunday, National 4-H Club Week and the county 4-H picnic.

2. All-Stars.

Members of the County All-Star Organization meet with the Extension Agents each year in selection of candidates to be nominated for All-Stars. Some of the All-Stars will assist with Honor Club Activities, Rural Life Sunday and 4-H camps. There are 10 members.

3. Honor Club.

The Nottoway Honor Club is composed of members who have been selected on basis of records, club achievements and are over fourteen years of age. There are about 25 members. They meet once each quarter. They will take the initiative in planning events for National 4-H Week.

Much of their time will be spent in keeping and assembling 4-H achievement records. It is from the Honor Club group that district contestants are selected to participate in demonstration contests.

This year the Extension Agents plan for this group to conduct projects designed especially for older members such as Automotive Care and Safety and Junior Leadership.

4. Project Planning Committee.

This committee is composed of members appointed from the County Council, Honor Club, and leaders along with the Extension Agents. They will meet and study the county youth work, projects suitable for boys and girls groups and make recommendations for county-wide project. After the selection of a project a calendar will be worked out for each meeting.

B. 4-H Project Work

Project	Subject Area	Number Clubs
	Topics to be included	
Forest Appreciation.	How a Tree Grows	12
Tree Identification	Products from Trees	12
	Wood Products Used at Home	12
	Tree Identification	12
	How to collect and Press Leaves	12

GOALS	WHAT MEMBERS ARE TO LEARN	PLANS FOR CARRYING OUT PROJECT	Notes-RESULTS, ADJ. ACCOMP.
To learn to identify the most common forest trees in Nottoway County	The parts of a tree How a Tree Grows Identify 20 trees by the leaves. What products come from trees. How to collect & Press Leaves	Hold Club mtgs. in School & have demonstrations by the agents on the topics above. Use slides & movies in presenting material on Products of trees. Use posters for teaching How a Tree Grows. Take club members on a field tour in school yard to identify trees and collect leaves. Have each club member collect leaves & make a scrapbook for them & other information on trees.	

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C. Other Activities

1. Camps

Nottoway 4-H members will attend District Camp at Camp Farrar, Virginia Beach. The County quota will be filled by those who have finished the county-wide project and show an interest in 4-H club work. The camp program will provide opportunity in recreation and leadership development. Also, club members will have a better understanding of the club program.

2. Rural Life Sunday

The clubs plan to observe Rural Life Sunday in May. Details have not been planned but they will be worked out by a committee from the County Council. This observance aids in personal development of young people and the public has a better idea of the overall 4-H program.

3. NATIONAL 4-H Club Week.

The clubs will begin selection of contestants for demonstration and achievement contests.

Also, plans are to publish a special news article on 4-H work and have some radio programs.

4. County 4-H Picnic

This event will be held during the summer for all club members and parents. The picnic will include various types of recreation and will provide an opportunity for boys and girls over the county to become better acquainted with one another.

5. Achievement Day.

The county program will be held in November. Awards for outstanding work will be presented and candidates for the Honor Club recognized. The reports on all phases of the club program will be given so that those present will get a better picture of the 4-H club work. Other plans in detail will be worked out by a committee from the county council.

IV. SCOPE OF WORK

A.	No. in 1960	Goal for 1961
No. H. D. Clubs	8	8
Membership	184	200
No. H.D. Groups* (unorganized)	0	0
Membership	0	0
No. 4-H Clubs	22	22
Membership	502	510
No. YMW Clubs	0	0
Membership	0	0
No. Community Clubs	0	0
Membership	0	0
No. Home Ec. Committees	1	2
Membership	5	19
No. General Interest Committees	1	1
Membership	6	6
No. Youth Committees	0	1
Membership	0	5
No. Other Organizations	0	0
No. Farm & Home Dev. Families	9	20
No. Other families reached	135	140
No. Different families reached	900	925

The areas which need emphasis during the year are in home economics committees and Farm and Home Development.

The agent will have to evaluate the work that has been done and make a further study of the county situation to determine where the effort should be placed.

B. Informing the Public About the Extension Home Economics Program.

The agent plans to report in the three weekly newspapers on the Home Economics work in the county.

The agent will cooperate with the local Garden Clubs, Women's Clubs and Granges in their activities and meanwhile discuss the extension program. There are members of these organizations who are not in home demonstration clubs and frequently the agent is called upon to meet with them and tell about various phases of Extension program.

More home visits to 4-H member's homes whose mothers are not in home demonstration clubs, will also help them to be better informed and more interested in Extension Home Economics program.

V. LEADERSHIP

A. Plan for Leadership

1. County Program Leaders	No. in 1960	Goal for 1961
a. County Agricultural Extension Service Board	11	11
b. Youth Council		
c. Home Economics Council	5	5
2. Home Demonstration Leadership	No. in 1960	Goal for 1961
No. organizational leaders	32	32
No. Project leaders (subject matter)	92	92
No. Federation program of work chairmen	8	8
No. Program Development leaders	8	8
No. result demonstrators	4	4
No. training meetings by specialists	8	5
No. training meetings by Dist. Agts.	0	1
No. training meetings by agents	1	2
No. training meeting by others	0	1
Attendance at all training meetings	139	145
No meetings held without an agent	65	65
No. meetings leaders assisted	75	75
Demonstrations by leaders	65	70
Talks and discussions by leaders	85	100
3. 4-H Club Leadership	No. in 1960	Goal for 1961
No. Club officers	148	148
No. adult project leaders	4	4
No. junior project leaders	7	7
No. result demonstrators	0	1
No. training meetings by specialists	0	1
No. training meetings by dist. agss.	0	0
No. training meetings by agents	10	10
No. training meetings by members club dept	0	0
No. trainin meetings by others	0	1
Attendance at leader training meetings	92	100
No. 4-H leaders trained individually	2	2
No. club meetings held by ldr without agt.	11	15
No. additional club meetings at which leaders assisted	71	75
No. demonstrations given by adult leaders	15	20
No. demonstrations given by junior leaders	35	40

B. Strengthening Leadership

The greatest emphasis needs to be on the adult leaders for 4-H clubs. There are three community clubs in the county, and leaders are needed for these, as well as for home economics project groups throughout the county. The agents would like to have three adult leaders for each community club and a project leader for the major projects in home economics, such as food preparation and clothing.

In the community clubs the goal is to have one organizational leader, and a project leader for girls and project leader for boys. Plans for reaching these are:

1. Discuss need for leaders at club meetings.
2. Have club select a committee to visit parents and adults who can work with their group.
3. Agents visit those selected by the club members as possible leaders for the 4-H clubs.
4. Hold training sessions for leaders on organization and subject matter.

VI. SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

A. Strengthening Public Relations

1. Relations within the State Extension Organization Itself.

Have regular office conferences to discuss county programs in order that the personnel may keep informed of work being done. Strive to have a complete overall County Extension Committee to be set up and functioning.

- 2/ Relations within the Parent Institution.

Encourage homemakers to attend the Institute of Rural Affairs to understand better the services available from the Land Grant Institution.

3. Relationships with Elected and Appointed Officials.

Continue to meet with Elected and Appointed Officials to explain the Extension Service Program and continue having them participate in local activities.

4. Relationships with Organizations.

To get all the organizations within the county to evaluate and correlate their purposes and activities. Continue to have representatives of these organizations to serve on Special Interest Committees which help to plan the County Extension Program.

5. Relationships with Businesses.

To acquaint the business leaders with a clearer understanding of the scope of the Extension Service. Continue working with businesses in county fair.

6. Relationships with Mass Media Personnel.

Work with the personnel in supplying news of the Extension Program and work with the local radio stations in having a regular program on Agriculture and Home Economics.

7. Relationships with Other Agencies.

Have frequent conferences with other agencies and initiate a county Professional Workers Council.

8. Individuals and Families.

Continue offering educational material and increase visitation to members of 4-H club families.

B. Professional Improvement

The agent plans to continue membership in the Virginia Home Demonstration Agent's Association and Virginia Home Economics Association. Plans are being made to attend the annual state meeting of the Virginia Home Economics Association. Also, plan to attend the National Meeting of the Home Demonstration Association to be held in Boston, Massachusetts in October.

The agent will attend workshops when possible, and possibly a special Extension Course. Will continue reading professional literature and strive to keep up-to-date on current subject matter in Home Economics.

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C. Contribution to Family Living

The leader training program will make a great contribution to the program. When leaders learn information first-hand they are better informed and have greater confidence in themselves.

As a follow-up, it will include an increase in number of meetings leaders conduct, increased attendance and evidence of putting into practice the topics demonstrated and discussed. This will be determined by a club survey or check sheet.