6. 4-H Achievement Program

County medals and other awards are presented at the annual 4-H achievement program which concludes the years work. These medals and awards are used to recognize club members and leaders doing an outstanding job. A set of flags is also awarded the club having the largest percentage of attendance at the program. The club having the largest percentage of record completions received a plaque on which the name of the club is engraved. This plaque was presented to the clubs by the local bank.

The program also helps by encouraging other club members to do better work.

2. District Demonstration Contest

Brunswick had six boys competing in the demonstration contest held in Petersburg. Four of them were district winners in forestry, poultry, home grounds and livestock conservation. The other two boys were red ribbon winners in electricity and tractor operation.

Four boys took part in the land appreciation contest held in Richmond. E. R. Minnick, soil conservationist, assisted with the training of this team.

These and other club members also gave demonstrations at Ruritan meetings, Southern States Cooperative meetings and at a special adult farmers program where both 4-H and FFA members were on the program.

3. 4-H Short Course and State Demonstration Contest

Five boys and three girls attended the 4-H Short Course in 1961. George Coleman received a blue ribbon in the Home Grounds Beautification contest, Bobby Hawthorne a blue ribbon in Livestock Conservation and E. B. Matthews red in Forestry.

Three members were taken into the 4-H All Stars. They were Eugene Daniel, E. B. Matthews, and Margie Baird. The All Star program has helped create more interest in 4-H club work among the older members.

4. 4-H Educational Exhibits

The 4-H exhibits serve a three-fold purpose in that they help tell the 4-H story to thousands of people, provides fellowship and the opportunity for the members to work together, and the prize money helps purchase awards and supplies for the club program.

During 1961 exhibits were set up at the 4-H Electric Congress, Southside Virginia Fair, and two at the South Central Fair. These exhibits on Electricity and Tractor Maintenance won one blue ribbon and three red ribbons.

5. 4-H Share the Fun

The 1961 4-H Share the Fun program consisted of a senior and junior division. The senior winner received a trip to 4-H Short Course and the junior winner a trip to 4-H junior camp. Twenty-five members participated in the county contest which was held at the Lawrenceville Elementary School.

(8) 4-H Dairy

A special dairy project group was organized and members attended meetings once a month at a local dairy farm on dairy cattle selection, feeding, and fitting and showing. Doug Child, a local dairy farmer, served as project leader for this group.

There are two animals in the 4-H dairy chain, one a registered Guernsey and one a registered Holstein. Other dairy animals are carried as individual projects through which members are trained through actual experience proper feeding, selection and record keeping necessary on dairy farms.

Two club members took part in the dairy show at the South Central Fair. Wanda Wesson received numerous blue ribbons in the open and junior competition and had the Grand Champion animal in the junior division.

(9) 4-H Wildlife

Twenty-eight 4-H members took the 4-H wildlife project and also entered the Wildlife Food Patch contest and Wildlife Conservation Plan contest sponsored by the three county Ruritan clubs. The winners of the two contests, Billy Peebles and E. B. Matthews, received as their prize an all day hunt at the Hidden Acres Game Preserve in Louisa County. The members killed two each of duck and pheasant at the Preserve and were treated to a Brunswick stew for lunch. In addition to this the first place winner received a $25 Savings Bond.

C. 4-H Activities

1. 4-H Camp

Forty-eight 4-H club members attended the annual 4-H camp with Norfolk and Princess Anne counties at Camp Parrar, Virginia Beach. The members attended classes and demonstrations on Civil Defense, Fire Safety, and Traffic Safety and took part in softball, volley ball, dancing, swimming, and other activities. Three of the four Lt. Governors and Secretarys were from Brunswick. The evening program included a flag ceremony, vesper program and recreation in which all members participated.

In addition to the junior camp, one member attended the senior camp and six members attended the 4-H forestry camp previously mentioned. Three county members and their parents also attended the 4-H All Star Week-end camp at Virginia Beach.

Buses used to transport the children to camp were furnished by the Brunswick County School Board.

Many parents have said that this is the best camp for youngsters that they know of and that they think it is well planned and supervised.

There were also other breeding and market hog projects that were carried, many of them originated from the pig chain in previous years.

b. Baby Beef

County businessmen helped sponsor the baby beef program in the county. Members show and sell their animals at the Junior Premium Stock Show and Sale in Petersburg. Only two calves were entered in the show this year. One calf was declared Champion Angus and Reserve Grand Champion of the show. The other calf was Reserve Champion Angus.

As well as learning good feeding and management practices the members learn the spirit of competition, showmanship, and good sportsmanship.

(6) 4-H Tractor Maintenance

Twenty 4-H members took and completed Unit B of the tractor maintenance project. These members attended seven maintenance meetings conducted by E. B. Harrison, project leader, and learned how to properly care for a tractor and operate it more safely and efficiently. Meetings were held at all of the local farm machinery dealers in the county who cooperated 100 per cent in the program.

An Operator's contest was held and both a first and second place junior and senior winner was selected. Prizes for the contest were donated by a local oil company and service station. A trophy was also presented to the senior winner, Eugene Daniel, to keep for one year. He also received a red ribbon at the district contest.

(7) 4-H Tobacco

Eight club members entered the 1961 4-H Tobacco Show and Sale which was sponsored by the Central Brunswick Ruritan Club. Because most of the county boys work in tobacco a need was seen to give them some encouragement to grow and prepare higher quality tobacco for the market. Prizes for the contest were $100, $50, and $25 Savings Bonds donated by the Ruritan club, warehouses, and other local businesses.

Each member raised from .2 to one acre of tobacco on which they kept an accurate record. The judging was based on quality and value per acre, floor display and record book accurateness and completeness. Judging from the quality of tobacco displayed on the floor the goals of the project were accomplished.

E. B. Matthews who entered his tobacco records in the Field Crops Achievement Awards program received a $50 bond as district winner.

Instructions were given by extension foresters, the county soil conservationist, and county Forester and Fire Warden. Meals were provided by local businesses and clubs.

Brunswick County club members were also presented a Certificate of Honor and a $50 award for the third place county award for 1960.

Six Brunswick members attended the new 4-H Forestry Camp held at Jamestown. E. B. Matthews was selected as the camper of the week and also received the Paul Bunyon Award for having the highest total score for all the forestry contests.

Eugene Daniel was State winner of a Pen and Pencil set on his 4-H Forestry Achievement records.

The 4-H forestry projects have been one of the most interesting and helpful of all 4-H projects.

(4) 4-H Electric

Both the Unit I and Unit II electric projects were carried in the county in 1961. In carrying out the project a special tour and two day school was held in which 26 members took part. Assistance at the school was given by personnel from VEPCO, Southside Electric Co-op, and Mecklenburg Electric Co-op.

After the members had completed classes on various electrical subjects, they traveled to the John Kerr Dam power plant and toured this and ended the school with a picnic lunch.

Many of the electric project members assembled 4-H reading and study lamps at a special meeting for this purpose.

J. B. Edmonds was selected as the winner of the trip to the 4-H Electric Congress in Richmond and helped build and set up the exhibit at the Congress. This exhibit was awarded a red ribbon and a prize of $10.00

The 4-H electric project proved to be both very interesting and helpful to the club members.

(5) 4-H Livestock

a. Swine

The 4-H pig chain sponsored by Sears Roebuck and Company and consisting of five registered Hampshire gilts and a registered boar was carried in the county and helped give much practical experience to the members in the project. This project was scored by a representative of Hygrade Packing Company and prizes awarded.

B. Projects

(1) 4-H Home Grounds Beautification

Unit I of the Home Grounds Beautification project was taken as the overall county club project for junior members. This project was selected by the committee because it was one that both boys and girls could work with equally well and at the same time beautify their home grounds.

By the use of slides, demonstrations and flannel boards the members were instructed how to plant and care for different plants, how to plan on paper a landscape for their home and how to make a leaf or flower collection. The members also learned the need for painting mail boxes and cleaning up the lawn and surrounding area.

The Red Oak Ruritan Club sponsored a contest on this project for members at the Alberta Elementary School and gave a 4-H camp scholarship to a boy and a girl for the members doing the best job with this project. This contest was very effective and the results were outstanding.

(2) 4-H Automotive Unit I

The Brunswick Senior club selected as their club project Automotive Care and Safety. Most of the members were of driving age and they said they wanted to learn more about automobiles.

At the meetings talks, movies, and tape recorded programs were used in telling of the importance of the automobile in our daily lives and teaching highway safety and the proper care of the automobile. Club members also gave demonstrations on how the automobile operates. This project was not as effective as it should have been because of the lack of sufficient time to completely carry out the project. However, the members did acquire a lot of helpful information from the project.

(3) 4-H Forestry

The 4-H forestry projects consisting of Forest Appreciation which was carried by two community clubs, Open Land and Spot Planting which 17 members carried and planted 9,000 pine seedlings given by the Virginia Division of Forestry, Halifax Paper Company, and Continental Can Company. Several members also carried the timber estimation, thinning and improvement projects.

Most outstanding of the accomplishments in this project was the two day forestry camp held with Greensville County. Twenty-six boys from Brunswick attended classes on planting, identification, timber estimation, chain saw safety and other forestry classes.

XI. 4-H Club Work

A. Organization

(1) Clubs

Brunswick County's 1961 4-H club program consisted of twelve in school clubs and two community 4-H clubs with a total enrollment of 247 boys and 217 girls. In addition to the regular club meetings other special interest project group meetings were conducted. These project groups were dairy, electricity, tractor maintenance and forestry.

(2) 4-H Club Committee

The 4-H club committee which helped plan the year's program and set up objectives and goals consisted of the following members: Mrs. Wilson Kidd, Bracey; Mrs. Phil Lewis, Brodnax; Mr. H. L. Matthews, Lawrenceville; Mr. Al Tirelis, Alberta; and Mrs. Ann Sturt, Rawlings.

(3) 4-H County Council

The 4-H county council is composed of the officers of all the county 4-H clubs. The council also helps plan many of the clubs activities. A special officer training program for the 4-H council was held during the year and the duties of an officer were spelled out to the group by Mrs. Elmo Walker, adult 4-H leader. During the meeting each officer was told how to best perform his or her respective duties during any meeting at which they presided.

(4) 4-H Honor Club

The Honor Club members are 4-H'ers who are 14 years of age and older and rank among the top 50% of their club. At the present time there are 27 active Honor Club members. Main goals accomplished by the Honor Club during the year were an educational trip by chartered bus to Norfolk where the members toured the Naval Air Station, a food distribution center, and other points of interest, erected an educational exhibit at the South Central Fair, and appeared on radio and TV programs during the year. To raise money for their activities the members held a bake sale at one of the local stores.

The Honor Club helped plan the 4-H Achievement program which was held in January. Honor club members also appeared on the program and provided the entertainment.

VII. Farm and Home Management

Continued work in this phase has been done mainly with old members although some new members have been added this year. Two inventories were completed this year but did not materialize in that the farmer got behind in keeping up-to-date records. The program is continuously being offered to our farm people. Many of them seem to prefer their own method of keeping records even though they are not adequate in many cases. In connection with this only one farmer has completed his twelve month program with reference to the V.P.I. Mail-in Record System. Others feel that this program is very beneficial and attempt to carry it out but completions just don't materialize.

VIII. Extension Personnel Assistance

All agricultural extension specialist departments have given assistance in the 1961 county extension program. This also includes the 4-H Club Department and Soil Conservation. Educational assistance on tours, demonstrations, county meetings, area meetings, personal contacts, securing various publications and information was of considerable value in the overall progress of the county extension program.

IX. Administration

In service training was one of the main phases of bettering the county agricultural extension program. All agents were involved. This included programs in 4-H work, livestock, forage, rural area development, crop varieties, and improving the extension programs to work with groups more effectively.

X. Summary

County farmers are continuing to increase production of milk per cow, yields of crops per acre and more income from forest products but are still lagging behind the state average on the majority of these. Adult farmers and groups are becoming more concerned with the 4-H phase of the extension program. They are encouraging members and sponsoring more programs. During the year marketing and farm management was impressed upon the farmer and more work by the extension agents was done in these two phases. The need for more income throughout the county and plans for encouraging the farmer to help himself are the main objectives of the county extension program. Brunswick county has a decline in population of 12% from 1950 to 1960.

5. Social Security

County Extension personnel are continuing to assist Social Security personnel with getting information to the farmer on how social security affects him and how he can best take advantage of same. A county meeting was held with the Social Security representative assisting. Leaflets were mailed periodically and radio talks were presented.

6. Gas Tax

Requests from county farmers on gas tax information and forms are being met. The office makes available forms and information for the farmer.

7. Emergency Planning Committee

Attended three meetings of the Emergency Planning Committee. General responsibilities of the committee, election of officers and an emergency site and other requirements were reviewed. The local governing bodies have been informed of this committee and its responsibilities. The ASC manager is chairman, Soil Conservation technician aid is co-chairman, and the county agent is a member.

8. Civil Defense

Assisted with the Civil Defense program through meetings, literature, radio talks, and newspaper articles. County people are becoming more aware of the need for knowing what fallout is and how to protect themselves from same. Several fallout shelters have been built in the county, perhaps twelve or more.

9. Cooperating with Other Agencies and with Business Establishments

Strong relationship with the professional people, business men and civic groups is continuing to be very good. Assistance has been received in an advisory capacity, sponsorship of the various demonstrations and programs, financial, and other support. County extension personnel offer full cooperation to these agencies and businesses.

VI. Other Phases of Extension Work which Agents were Directly Involved

1. Virginia's Changing Agriculture

Attended with J. E. Matthews, Jr., County Board of Supervisor member, Totaro District; E. B. Walthall, County Board of Supervisor member, Red Oak District; and F. M. Kirkland, president Farmers Union, the meeting in Richmond, Virginia on Virginia's Changing Agriculture. The purpose of the meeting was to inform agriculture leaders of the past conditions of Virginia's agriculture, present conditions, why they are in this condition and the outlook. Plans to use this material in the county are underway.

2. Soil Conservation

The county agent is serving another term as secretary of the Soil Conservation District which includes the counties of Brunswick, Charlotte, Halifax, Lunenburg, and Mecklenburg. Sixteen days were devoted to this phase of work during the year. This included regular meetings, farm and home visits, tours, state and area meetings, talks, and other means of communication. The agent also assisted with writing the annual report for the District. Great Creek Watershed in Brunswick County has made considerable progress. The program has now advanced to the stage of signing of easements by the land owners.

Taft Stewart, county dairyman, was awarded a Certificate of Recognition for outstanding accomplishments over the past 14 years. A news article and picture of Mr. Stewart appeared in the Brunswick Times Gazette.

3. Agricultural Engineering

Farm folk are continuing to use the agricultural engineering department for guidance in farm structures and farm homes. Two new dairies were assisted with this year plus numerous other facilities including feeding facilities, holding facilities, concrete holding lots and others. G. D. Kite and C. D. Wheary, VPI Agricultural Engineers, assisted.

4. Agricultural Stabilization Conservation Service

The agent attended regular meetings of the ASCS county committee and many special meetings. Also attended area and state meetings. Spent considerable time on county meetings, radio talks, and other means of communication with regards to the Feed Grain program.

(10) One tobacco sorting and grading demonstration was held for tobacco growers.

(11) The agent held aromatic tobacco meetings to discuss the production of aromatic tobacco.

(12) Twelve disease clinics were held in different sections of the county.

D. Results gotten from Methods used in obtaining the objectives of the committee were as following:

(1) At the seven tobacco production meetings held in different sections of the county approximately 125 farmers attended.

(2) The three acre evaluation plot of six varieties grown by C. H. Steed was delivered on November 1 at Danville, so samples could be taken by the companies on November 2. This information will not be available to farmers until next year.

(3) Approximately 25 farmers attended the county wide irrigation meeting.

(4) Eighteen farmers attended the tobacco sorting and grading demonstration.

(5) At the disease clinic in twelve different sections of the county, 60 farmers brought in disease samples to be identified.

(6) Five farmers seeded aromatic tobacco plant beds. Only three farmers planted and harvested a crop of aromatic tobacco.

(7) All means of communication were used to get recommended practices of production and marketing to the growers. These included news articles, radio programs, personal visits, cooperation with other agencies, chemical companies, fertilizer men and seed men.

(6) One farmer planted and harvested 1/2 acre of aromatic tobacco in 1961.

B. The objectives set up by the agronomy committee at their meeting at the beginning of the year were as following:

(1) The main objectives set forth were better varieties, control of diseases, higher quality, better fertilization, and plant bed management.

(2) The committee also emphasized better cultural practices such as topping, suckering, spacing and wiser use of irrigation.

(3) Another objective of the tobacco committee was to get at least six farmers to grow one-half to one acre of aromatic tobacco.

C. The methods used by the agents in accomplishing some of the objectives set up by the agronomy committee were as following:

(1) The agent held seven tobacco production meetings in different sections of the county. The main topic of discussion at these meetings were fertilization, resistant varieties, better cultural practices and advantages of fescue rotation.

(2) A three acre evaluation plot of six different varieties was grown by C. H. Steed for the Virginia Experiment Station.

(3) Some county farmers attended the stabilization meeting at Halifax. The buying, processing, storing and selling of tobacco purchased by stabilization was discussed.

(4) The agent located identification plots for ASC to train field men for identification of undesirable varieties of tobacco.

(5) Informative type letters with new and revised bulletins were mailed to tobacco growers every two or three months.

(6) Radio and newspapers were used as a means of obtaining the objectives set forth by the committee.

(7) As many farm visits as possible were made to obtain the objectives.

(8) Bulletins, soil record sheets, and boxes were mailed every two months to twenty bulletin racks in different sections of the county.

(9) One county wide irrigation meeting was held for tobacco growers.

Small grains in the county total 7,000 acres, the major portion of this being wheat acreage. Small grain yields have increased but need to be increased further. Many farmers do not fertilize their small grain crops at seeding time and some do not top dress in the spring. Increases of 6 to 10 bushels on all small grains are easily possible through proper fertilization.

In all the forage, small grain, soy beans, and corn, recommended varieties are being used by 95% of the farmers.

To this date Brunswick County has 1,940 acres of wheat in the wheat stabilization program. It also has 335 acres in the barley Feed Grain program.

Conservation practices were emphasized in meetings during the entire year. Also through radio talks and field trips, all field trips and tours were carried out on farms that are putting to use recommended soil conservation practices.

Brunswick County machinery dealers and agent took part in the training program in Suffolk. This program related to mechanized forage handling and methods of getting the farmer to increase his use of forages including grasses and corn silage. Bobby Orgain of Alberta Hardware Company of Alberta attended this meeting.

2. Tobacco

A. The tobacco situation in Brunswick County at the beginning of the year was as following:

(1) There was 5,013.9 acres of flue cured tobacco allotted to 2,000 farmers in Brunswick County. The average tobacco allotment for these farms was 2.05 acres per farm. The average poundage of tobacco for the county was approximately 1,535 pounds per acre.

(2) Approximately 75% of the farm income is derived from the sale of flue cured tobacco.

(3) Tobacco is grown mostly on appling, durham and cecil soils, however, some farmers have to produce tobacco on less desirable soils such as wilkes and worsham. Tobacco farmers are sending in more soil samples each year for fertilizer recommendations.

(4) There were approximately 75 irrigation systems irrigating 1,500 acres of tobacco.

(5) The quality of some flue cured tobacco was very poor due to certain varieties, adverse weather conditions, and improper use of chemicals, fertilizer, and other cultural practices.

One demonstration on corn silage was set up this year using a high analysis of fertilizer and the pre-emergence weed control. The purpose of this was to encourage higher yields and to give the corn ample growth before leaves emerged. The yield on this one acre demonstration was eleven tons per acre. In meetings and field trips emphasis was placed on the food value of silage in comparison with other feeds.

Corn for grain acreage is 11,200 acres with an average yield of 34 bushels per acre. Livestock owners are encouraged to grow more of their own feeds. Seven farmers were given fertilizer and weed control chemicals for one acre each to demonstrate higher yields per acre of corn. The nitrogen and potash were in excess of 100 pounds per acre. The farmer and his yield are as follows:

Randolph Browder, Dolphin - 76 bushels per acre - Check plot 69 bushels per acre
E. M. Powell, Freeman - 55 bushels per acre - Check plot 48 bushels per acre
H. T. Wilson, Rawlings - 74 bushels per acre
J. T. Wiley, Freeman - 59 bushels per acre
Vincent Inge, Valentines - 48 bushels per acre
F. M. Kirkland, Lawrenceville - 46.7 bushels per acre

Two meetings were held at two of these demonstrations. Newspaper articles were written on them and five radio talks were given. Also this program was discussed with three civic groups in the county. The purpose of the demonstrations was to show that higher yields could be gotten with recommended practices. The fertilizer was furnished by TVA and chemicals by a chemical company.

Hay and pasture production was discussed at two county meetings and a field day. Higher analyses of fertilizer, rotation, and more cows graze per acre were discussed. Also year-round feeding of forage was emphasized. Brunswick County entered the 12-Month Forage program for the third consecutive year. All hay, soy beans, small grain, and otherwise total 26,900 acres. Some hay is being bought from outside the county. Production has increased year after year but more forage needs to be grown throughout the county for beef and dairy cattle. Improved pasture and importance of pasture was stressed through meetings, radio talks, and tours. There is presently 15,000 acres of pasture in the county. Emphasis has been placed on top dressing to increase the late fall and early grazing of these pastures.

The goal of increasing cotton by 1/4 bale was achieved. The cotton program was carried out mostly through radio, newspaper, personal visits, circular letters, and bulletins. Harvesting at the proper time and the fertility program are still of major concern.

(B) Peanuts

Acreage of peanuts is also declining and is now 792 acres. The yield per acre on peanuts has increased somewhat and is now 1470 pounds per acre, an increase of 270 pounds per acre. Brunswick county does not have the soil type for high yields of peanuts. The goal of increasing peanut production by 10% was surpassed this year.

Through the various means of communication most emphasis was placed on cultivation to prevent the major disease problem, wilt. Some of the land has a potential of more than 2500 pounds per acre.

(C) Forage, Ensilage and Grain

The goal of increasing alfalfa yield by .2 ton per acre was met. Yields in the county are considerably below the average for the state. The present yield is somewhat better than two tons per acre. This increase is due to farmers using weed and insect control measures as recommended. Also their harvesting methods have improved.

An alfalfa demonstration has been conducted on two farms the past three years. The purpose of the demonstrations is to show weed control, use of high analysis fertilizer and insect control. Two meetings were held at these demonstrations and the program was explained to those attending. Approximately 40 people observed these demonstrations. Talks were given to the civic groups and on the radio and news articles were written pointing out the work done on these demonstrations. The dairy demonstration was located on Weswam Manor Farm, Gholsonville and the beef demonstration was on C. H. Steed's farm, Meredithville. This demonstration resulted in farmers using recommendations as outlined on this program. A definite increase in yield was noted by the cooperator. Materials for the treatment were furnished by a fertilizer company and a chemical company.

In that corn silage has proven to be the cheapest feed per total nutrient as feed for livestock, more emphasis has been placed on this mainly due to farmers not feeding their cattle enough. This perhaps is due to high cost of feed. There are more than 300 acres of corn used for silage in the county. The average yield is about ten tons per acre for corn silage.

(3) Emphases have been placed on farmers taking better care of their hardwoods in that there is a potential market for them.

(4) Approximately 3500 acres of the undesirable acres of the woodland have been improved this year.

(5) An average of a million pine seedlings have been planted annually by woodlot owners for the sixth consecutive year. Forestry in Brunswick County is termed a crop in many instances.

(6) The agent attended a forestry training school in Blackstone for one week. Phases of forestry studied and demonstrated were management, marketing, wildlife and the VPI forestry curriculum.

(7) It is estimated that 87 farmers have made definite changes to better their woodlot production program.

(8) More work was done in the county with our youth than in previous years, this to be reported under 4-H.

(9) A program relating forestry and conservation was held, emphasis being placed on importance of forestry as a conservation practice.

(10) Some work has been done on wildlife education in the county. Several visits have been made with regards to this. The 4-H program is emphasizing this also.

Held a combination meeting on wildlife and forestry assisted by H. B. Redd, Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries, and Harold Clinger, county forester. Planting unproductive areas and field borders to vegetation for wildlife feeding purposes were the subjects covered.

D. Agronomy

1. General Field Crops

(A) Cotton

Cotton has steadily declined over the years from more than 2000 acres to a present acreage of 1616 acres. Approximately 90% of the cotton is picked each year. Much is picked late therefore being damaged by weather. Yields are continuing on the above average level with about the same yield as was produced last year, 1.2 bales per acre. Recommended production practices are being used more.

It is estimated that 48 pountrymen have made definite changes in their program this year.

C. Forestry

Forestry ranks third in the county as to economic importance with approximately $400,000 gross income. Forest fire control is continuing to be very good with about 96% control. The Soil Bank Reserve took 229 acres out of crop production. Forest industries in the county include six sawmills, one box mill, and two wood chippers. Four paper companies have land holds of approximately 19% of the woodland area. They also buy considerable amounts of pulpwood from county woodlot owners. Hardwoods are being used somewhat by these paper industries. At the present time they are not using hardwood but in the near future they anticipate buying hardwood from county woodlot owners.

Goals for 1961

(1) Improve 5,000 acres of inferior acres
(2) Inform woodlot owners of the market for various products
(3) Hold educational meetings and a tour
(4) More work with our county youth
(5) Inform owners of marketing practices and woodland management
(6) Emphasize to woodlot owners the importance of their protecting their forest from fire

(1) Held a forestry recognition program to recognize woodlot owners who have done outstanding work in various forestry practices. Thirty-two entries were judged. Awards of $5 each went to the first place winners. Junior winners were E. B. Matthews, Bobby Scott and Tommy Dale Coleman, and W. B. Hawthorne. Adult winners were Mrs. Minnie King, Lee Chambliss, Charles Acree, H. H. Williams, and L. P. Elmore. The purpose of this program was to recognize those who the judges thought did the best job on the various forestry practices. Sponsors of this program were the Brunswick Box Company, Farmers & Merchants Bank, W. S. Peebles & Co., Al Clary, general construction, and Clyde Delbridge, Gasburg.

(2) Held a county forestry school and was assisted by county professional and businessmen, representatives of Union Bag - Camp Mfg. Co., Franklin Division, and VPI Extension. The program was sponsored by the Union Bag - Camp Mfg. Co., Franklin Division. The program included talks and/or demonstrations by: E. R. Minnick, Soil Conservationist; C. C. Steirly, District Forester; George A. Gehrken, Supv. Wildlife Conservation; Harold Clinger, County Forester; J. C. Lucy, Chairman County Extension Forestry Committee; Rawleigh Clary, County ASCS Office Manager; Ed Gill, Extension Forester; and Robert Clarke, Chief County Forest Warden. The attendance was thirty.

(3) Sheep

Sheep numbers have increased by 500 since the 1955 Census. Sheep production in the county is not a major enterprise. This does provide 59 sheepmen with additional income.

Emphasis have been placed on saving more lambs and the use of purebred rams.

Wool production from the county totals approximately 4500 pounds annually. Sheepmen hire a professional sheep shearer to shear approximately 800 sheep. This commercial shearing brings about a better quality wool and is not as time consuming as if the farmer would do it himself.

With the use of letters and visits the sheepmen were kept informed of the market demand for lambs and wool and the market place for same. Approximately 95% of the wool is marketed through a wool pool held in Blackstone, Virginia.

Through the means available producers were informed of the necessity of keeping healthy flocks through recommended sanitation practices.

Twenty-five sheep producers have made definite changes in their program this year.

(4) Poultry

Poultry numbers in the county continue at better than 40,000. One new poultry house was built which houses 2200 layers. Egg prices have been somewhat better this year and have brought about the filling of all poultry houses with birds. The major portion of the poultry program was carried out through personal visits, letters, bulletins, and radio programs.

All flock owners were sent a copy of the new VPI poultry record keeping sheet. Two poultrymen have requested enough copies for a twelve month supply.

County grocery stores are handling more of the locally produced eggs. Some businesses still feel the quantity is not sufficient to supply them with a continuous quantity for daily use from any one producer.

Poultrymen attended an educational meeting in Emporia. Emphasis was placed on efficiency with present facilities, expansion of poultry in this area, poultry housing, diseases and production.

The goals for this year were:

(1) Innoculate 10% more hogs
(2) Get one more pig saved per litter
(3) More growers to attend and take part in the feeder pig sale
(4) Increase the number of feeder pigs to the special sale by 100%
(5) Continue on the goal of 5% improvement in the meat type sire and provide information on breeding, feeding management, marketing, and structures

(1) A feeder pig meeting was held in the county to give farmers the production and marketing phases of the feeder pig program. All swine producers were informed of the feeder pig program, the value of these pigs as compared with those sold on the regular sale, and demonstrations were given on treating pigs for the sale.

(2) The quality of swine was increased approximately 5%

(3) County producers are represented on the board of directors of the feeder pig sale by Randolph Browder of Dolphin and W. R. Smith of Meredithville.

(4) Twenty percent more pigs are being sold on the market than last year.

(5) The agent attending planning meetings for the feeder pig sale. These meetings discussed the rules and regulations, the time of sales, the board of directors, and the quality and quantity of pigs desired. The agent informed producers of this action by personal contact, letters, radio and meetings.

(6) The agent also attended an educational program on swine which included judging of the live swine and the swine carcass. Also attended organizational meeting on setting up commercial swine sale. This would include the sale of registered boars and commercial breeding stock for gilts. This information has been given to county producers.

Goals for 1961 were:

(1) Hold a grading demonstration
(2) Form a beef cattle association in the county
(3) More corn for silage
(4) More efficient operation on corn silage feed and feed additives
(5) Increase by 10% the number of choice cattle by 1965

(1) The grading demonstration goal was not met due to the county not having enough calves to use for a successful program.

(2) A meeting on forming a county beef cattle association was held and the group voted not to form an association due to lack of interest by the cattlemen.

(3) A livestock production marketing meeting was held with K. C. Williamson, animal husbandman, assisting. Emphasis was placed on the type market to sell on and the different weights to properly sell cattle; also a comparison of Virginia's gross income with other states, Virginia's income in most instances was much higher. Twenty-five cattlemen attended.

(4) Assisted beef cattlemen with their selection for market of feeder calves. Approximately 170 calves from Brunswick County were consigned to the 1961 Feeder Calf Sale. The quality of these calves was two percent better than the 1960 calves.

(5) The agent and the board of director member, William Griffin, attended the annual planning meeting of the Feeder Calf Association. Changes were made in the rules and regulations, plans for the 1961 sale were made and officers were elected for 1961. The sale this year averaged around 24½¢ per hundred weight for steers.

(6) A beef cattle field day is anticipated for the month of November (this month). The proposed place is the Shelton Dugger farm in Meredithville. The field day will be composed of the topics, 12-Month forage program, better facilities for handling cattle, rotation pasture and fertilization for better stands over longer period of years. Assisting will be extension agronomist and animal husbandmen.

(7) Approximately 47 beef cattlemen made changes in their program in 1961.

(2) Swine

The 1960 Census showed an increase of 4,000 swine over the previous census. The county hog market which was recently organized perhaps had some effect on this increase. Swine producers are continuing to improve the quality of their swine by buying a better quality boar and in many instances a registered boar.

(6) The dairymen were encouraged to keep their own calf replacements in the meetings that were held, on tours, and personal visits. Dairymen are realizing this need more and more but do not have facilities to do the job adequately. Dairymen were also shown calves that came from artificially bred dams and were compared with other calves with the artificially bred calf being the best overall.

Assisted Mike Bowman, new artificial breeding technician, in getting orientated to his new job as technician.

The agent attended and took part in the annual meeting of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association which was held in South Hill. Six Dairy Herd Improvement Association members from the county also attended. The purpose of the meeting was general education and to approve or disapprove the newly hired supervisor; also to approve one application for a new member in the Dairy Herd Improvment Association program.

The agent attended an all breed judging program in the Buchanan-Rocky Mount, Virginia area for the purpose of receiving training on how to do a better job of judging dairy cattle for herd replacement and for county shows and fair judging.

The agent spent sometime assisting Lawrence Wright and C. G. Kidd of Gasburg with building plans and layout for their new dairies. Also assisting was G. D. Kite, agricultural engineer of Blacksburg.

The livestock show committee voted to participate in the South Central Fair in Chase City. This year four different people showed ten dairy animals at this fair; two 4-H club members and two adults. The Weswam Manor Farm of Gholsonville took Reserve Champion in the dairy class, first place in the get-of-sire, and first place in herd class.

Approximately 27 dairymen made changes for a more efficient dairy operation.

B. Livestock

(1) Beef Cattle

One hundred ten beef cattle producers account for the majority of the 5,000 beef cows in the county. Many other people have one, two, three and five calves each. Beef cattlemen have made considerable improvements in the quality of calves and brood cows. Brunswick County is a brucellosis free county.

V. Individual Commodity Activities Carried in 1961

A. Dairy

Thirty-nine dairymen own approximately 1404 grade A dairy cows, eleven are in the Dairy Herd Improvement Association and seven of these are on the EDPM electronic record keeping system. Thirty-three are using the artificial breeding program and breed approximately 700 cows each year. There are two new Grade A dairymen in the county. These two bought out two other dairymen within the county therefore the total number of dairies remains the same.

Goals set up for the 1961 dairy program are:

(1) Hold a field day with demonstrations and tours
(2) Hold a dairy educational meeting
(3) Increase the herd size for more efficient operation
(4) Increase number of Dairy Herd Improvement Association by five if openings occur
(5) Increase by 40% the number of artificial breeding services
(6) Get more dairymen to keep their own calves for replacements

(1) The field day and tour was held on Weswam Manor Farm, Gholsonville. Topics discussed were a complete dairy ration, raising dairy replacements, artificial breeding program, and the EDPM phase of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association program. Dr. V. L. Baldwin, Extension Dairy Specialist VPI, George Miller, fieldman Virginia Artificial Breeding Association, and the county agent held the program with the assistance of committeemen. Dairymen judged five cattle as to their preference as a type desired dairy cow. Also the weak and strong points of these cows were emphasized. The field day was sponsored by the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Lawrenceville and the South Hill Production Credit Association. Seventeen dairymen were present.

(2) An educational meeting was held in the Danieltown Community House for the purpose of improving cattle through the use of artificial breeding. Twenty-two dairymen were present. Another meeting was held in the South Brunswick school with 30 dairymen present. This meeting was on feeds and care of the dairy animal.

(3) Through meetings and visits emphasis was placed on increasing the size of the dairy herd for a more efficient operation.

(4) The Dairy Herd Improvement Association membership was increased by two during this year. These two members are using the electronic record keeping system.

(5) The number of breeding services increased by approximately 20 percent or half the goal which was set up.

I. Extension Personnel in Brunswick County

Personnel in the Brunswick County Extension Service consists of the county agent, assistant county agent doing primarily 4-H work, assistant county agent doing one-third time tobacco work, home demonstration agent, home demonstration agent trainee and one full time stenographer.

II. Description of the County

Population - 20,000; 42 percent white; 58 percent Colored. Brunswick County is located on the North Carolina border and between the counties of Greensville on the east and Mecklenburg on the west and has 557 square miles area. There are five districts, Meherrin, Powellton, Red Oak, Sturgeon and Totaro. There are 1949 farms which average 103.7 acres with the average land and buildings value of $10,700 per farm. This is a fifteen acre increase over the size of 1945.

III. Types of Agriculture as to Economic Importance

Tobacco - 5,332 acres and a gross income of over 4 million dollars annually; 39 Grade A dairies with a gross income of $700,000; forestry - $400,000 gross income; livestock - $300,000 gross income. Beef and dairy cattle number approximately 11,000 head. Peanut acreage is 792; cotton acreage 1616; wheat acreage 4759; corn acreage 10,105; poultry 38,000 birds; swine 13,359 head; and sheep 12,000. Forest lands cover 62% of the total land area leaving 38% for farming and other necessities.

IV. Planning and Carrying out the Extension Program

The long range and short time plans for the agricultural extension program in Brunswick County was developed in cooperation with the Extension Commodity Committee. Personnel on this committee was of farm, non-farm, and urban folk. Commodity committee members assisted with forestry, dairy, agronomy (and tobacco) and livestock. Committeemen were involved in carrying out all the goals set up by the committees. Other means of carrying out the program were sub-committees, radio, newspaper, personal contacts, letters, meetings, local agencies and organizations, businesses, and Extension specialists personnel. Also an oral report of activities of month was reported to County Board of Supervisors at their monthly meetings during the year.

IV. A. Extension Program Objective

The overall objective of the Brunswick County Agricultural Extension program is to assist the people of the county in their pursuit of a more prosperous, productive, and satisfying living. The carrying out of the goals in the following commodity areas will be used to get our county farmers to help themselves in all phases of farming.

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ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service

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Assistant Agent

1961

Brunswick
County