

FILED

PLAN OF WORK

1955

WADDEN COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Benjamin H. Weddle, Jr. . . . . County Agent

N. E. Landis . . . . . Assistant County Agent

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. SITUATION	PAGE 1
II. PROCEDURE	2
III. GENERAL PROBLEMS	2
IV. GENERAL EDUCATION PROCEDURE	2
V. ACTIVITIES	3
VI. 4-H CLUB WORK	9
VII. CALENDAR OF EVENTS	11

## II. PROCEDURE

To date only two commodity committees have been activated and only these two had a part in drawing up this agricultural plan of work. They were the Agronomy and Livestock Committees. This year two dairymen were added to the Livestock Committee, after a survey of dairy operators had indicated an insufficient number of dairy farmers (5) to warrant a special commodity committee. Other phases of the plan of work were developed by the Agent after personal contacts with farmers and other interested persons.

## III. GENERAL PROBLEMS

One of the biggest problems in Warren County is the difficulty in improving farmer participation in educational programs for their own benefit.

Other problems more agricultural are:

- Low forage and grain yields
- Diseases of plants and animals
- Insects and parasites of plants and animals
- Poor markets
- Inadequate crop and livestock management practices

## IV. GENERAL EDUCATION PROCEDURE

To insure success in meeting problems in all commodities, it will be necessary to make effective use of each and all of the following methods:

- Personal visits
- Telephone and office visits
- Tours and field trips
- Personal and circular letters
- Method and Result Demonstrations
- News articles
- Radio
- Posters

## V. ACTIVITIES

A. Agronomy

## 1. Pastures

- a. Situation - Pasture is our cheapest source of feedstuff for livestock. Cattle numbers continue to rise, and the pastures of Warren County are, in many instances, inadequate to carry those cattle on hand.
- b. Objective - Adequate high-quality pasture for all livestock present on all farms.
- c. Goals - (1) Organize Pasture Club and Pasture Contest.  
(2) Set up two Plant Food Institute Demonstrations.  
(3) Encourage at least 30 Warren County people to visit Agronomy Research Stations during 1955.
- d. Methods -  
(1a) Agronomy Committee to serve also on Pasture Contest Committee and to meet with County Agent and Forage Specialist, John Shoulders to set up rules and regulations for Warren County Pasture Club and Contest.  
(1b) Special "Pasture" issue of "Warren Sentinel" to be released during 3rd or 4th week in May in an effort to heighten interest in program.  
(1c) Pasture Contest participants to be judged twice during grazing season. During June and August or September with John Shoulders, and at least two other disinterested people scoring the entries.

## V. ACTIVITIES - Continued

present to determine changes

- (3) Stop at least one tour at Lawrence Swan's, Happy Creek, to view newly established Williamsburg alfalfa stand.

## 2. Forage Pest Control

- a. Situation - Spittlebugs are increasing in numbers on forage crops, especially alfalfa and clover throughout the county.
- b. Objective - Reduce or eliminate losses of forages to insect pests.
- c. Goals
- (1) Conduct at least one spittlebug control demonstration.
  - (2) Hold at least one educational meeting at demonstration.
- d. Methods
- (1) In April, with assistance of Extension Entomologist locate demonstration and apply insecticides.
  - (2) In July schedule tour to include stop at spittlebug control demonstration.

## 4. Soil Testing

- a. Encourage continued use of V. P. I. soil testing service for determining lime and fertilizer needs.
- b. Cooperate wholeheartedly with CSS office in expediting lime tests for their patrons.
- c. Urge all persons using soil testing service to do so as early during winter as possible.

## B. LIVESTOCK

## 1. Bang's "eifer Vaccinating Program

- a. Situation - Last November an Extension sponsored Heifer Vaccination clinic was started with some 285 heifers being treated. Also, during the fall the Federal Government

## V. ACTIVITIES - Continued

c. Goals

- (1) Increase by 5 the number of participants in our breeding services.
- (2) Conduct Dairy feeding school.

d. Methods

- (1) Through all media spread good word of better sires available through breeding service.
- (2) In July hold special feeding school at Front Royal by Extension Dairyman.

## 4. General

- a. Encourage cow-calf herd owners to market calves through Fall and Spring Feeder Calf Sales.
- b. Promote and encourage by all means available, the use of well selected purebred of sires.
- c. Promote interest in activities of Front Royal Beef Cattle Research Station especially the April Field Day and Bull Sale.
- d. Encourage use of artificial breeding service. Encourage
- e. fattening of heifer calves, if price differential remains favorable.

C. Poultry

## 1. Management Efficiency

- a. Situation- Almost every farm in the county has at least a small laying flock. Most flocks are inefficient and often unprofitable.
- b. Objective - Improvement of feed-to-egg ratio and egg quality on all farms.

## V. ACTIVITIES - Continued

- c. Goals- Conduct 4 community poultry management meetings.  
Secure at least 2 laying flock demonstrations in County.
- d. Methods - In July schedule community meetings at local stores or private homes, led by Extension Poultrymen and/or local feed and hatchery personnel to inform farm folks of better production methods, new discoveries, etc.  
Assisted by Extension Poultrymen, select 2 demonstrators early in year.

General

- a. Provide all producers up-to-date technical assistance as requested.
- b. Arrange for regular and frequent visits to county by Extension Poultry Specialists.
- c. Publicize services available through Regional Diagnostic Laboratories especially in determining poultry ills.

## E. Horticulture

- 1. Situation - Twelve apple and peach producers grow about all of the tree fruits produced in Warren County.
- 2. Objectives
  - a. Production of high quality fruit products.
  - b. Technical assistance to producers when requested.
- 3. Goals
  - a. Initiate one fruit tree pruning demonstration.
  - b. Keep local producers up-to-date on all new information available.
- 4. Methods
  - a. During November or December, schedule Extension

## V. ACTIVITIES - Continued

Horticulturist to conduct pruning demonstration.

- b. Supply all literature available as requested.

Notify local producers of all educational fruit meetings to be held in neighboring counties, and arrange for their attendance.

## E. Farm and Home Development

1. Situation - No coordinated effort has ever been made to include all phases of farm operation in one program.
2. Objective - Comfortable living accommodations and near recommended level of production on all farms.

## VI. 4-H CLUB WORK - Continued

Other 4-H Activities

State 4-H Club Short Course

District 4-H Camp

Warren County 4-H Achievement

Organization

Local Clubs in Communities and schools

County Council

County 4-H Honor Club

## VII. CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January

Commodity Committee Meetings

District 4-H Extension Project Meetings

District 4-H Extension Project Meetings

## VII. CALENDAR OF EVENTS - Continued

April	4-H Baby Beef Sale
	4-H County Council
	District Livestock Judging Contest
May	Poultry Specialist Visits
	Rural Life Sunday
	District Poultry Judging Contest
	Pasture Issue of Warren Sentinel
June	Field Day at Middleburg Pasture Research Station
	Judge Pasture Club Members
	Small Grain Varietal Demonstration Meetings
	State All Star Conference
	State 4-H Short Course
July	Bang's Vaccination Clinic Survey
	Dairy Feeding School
	Poultry Management Meetings
	Pasture Club Tour with stop at Spittlebug Control demonstration
	Poultry Specialist visits
	Tour to Plant Food Institute demonstrations
	Middleburg Experiment Station Field Day
August	Judge Pasture Club members
	Northern Virginia 4-H Camp
	Market Hog Show-Sale
September	Poultry Specialist visits
	Reorganization of 4-H Clubs
October	Bang's Vaccination Clinic Survey
	Awards Program for Pasture Club
	Feeder Calf Sales

## VII. CALENDAR OF EVENTS - Continued

October	County 4-H Achievement Program and Exhibits Forest Management Demonstration
November	Poultry Specialist visits Annual Reports Pruning Demonstration
December	Commodity Committee Meetings