

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE WORK
IN
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

Virginia Polytechnic Institute &
U. S. Department of Agriculture,
Cooperating

EXTENSION SERVICE
County Agent Work

PLAN OF WORK

COUNTY Dinwiddie

YEAR 1954

Name S. J. James
(Local Farm Agent)

Date Mailed 12/29/53

County Advisory Board Officers

President	P. J. Lundy, Route 1, Mckenney, Virginia
Vice President	J. M. Johnson, Sutherland, Virginia
Secretary	Mrs. Ruth J. Walker, Dinwiddie, Virginia
Treasurer	J. A. Stewart, Route 1, Petersburg, Virginia

A-H Junior Council Officers

President	Miss Wilnette Edwards, Route 2, Dinwiddie, Va.
Vice President	Edward Fields Route 2, Church Road, Va.
Secretary	Miss Gearldige Bland, Route 1, Sutherland, Va.
Treasurer	Miss Alfreda Williams, Route 1, Petersburg, Va.

County Situation.

Dinwiddie County is located in southside Virginia. It is situated partly in the Tidewater and partly in the Piedmont areas. The county consists of five hundred and twenty-one (521) square miles.

The chief crops produced in Dinwiddie County are: tobacco, peanuts, corn, soybeans, small grains and cotton. Most of the farmers have home gardens and those located near the city of Petersburg produce truck crops for market.

Livestock production is slowly increasing throughout the county. Hog production rank highest in number and importance in the livestock program. Poultry raising is engaged in on most of the farms. A few farmers have started a beef raising project on a small scale and most of the farms have dairy cows or cow for home use.

A number of the farm people are engaged in employment other than farming to supplement the income.

County Population.

The number of Negro farmers in Dinwiddie County according to the 1950 census are:

Owners-----	586
Tennants-----	207
Sharecroppers-----	77
Total	870

County Problems.

According to surveys and reports conducted on Dinwiddie County, some of the major problems are as follows:

1. increasing the yield per acre on most farms.
2. the use of more soil and water conservation measures on more farms.
3. increasing the acreage of improved pastures.
4. a better and a more cooperative leadership functioning system.
5. controlling diseases among crops and livestock.

Organization.

The County Advisory Board consists of forty-nine (49) members, 25 men and 24 women.

The Community Clubs consist of two hundred and twenty-four (224) members.

The number of leaders for these organizations are: 37 men and 35 women.

Projects.

A. Pastures.

1. Goal.

To conduct five (5) demonstrations of improved pastures that will provide two hundred (200) or more days of grazing for each animal unit per acre.

2. Methods to be Used.

- a. fertilizing and topdressing with recommended amounts and analysis of fertilizers.
- b. seeding proper mixtures for locality.
- c. giving instruction on proper care and management.
- d. obtaining results and information on demonstrations for further use.

3. General Educational Activities.

Field meetings at demonstrations, circular letters and bulletins will be used to get information to the people.

B. Corn.

1. Goal.

To conduct a one hundred bushel (100 bu.) corn club in the county with twenty-five (25) or more farmers participating. The aim here is to increase the corn yield per acre throughout the county.

2. Methods to be Used.

- a. get farmers to plant recommended varieties and to use recommended amounts of fertilizer.
- b. make field measurements at proper time to determine results.
- c. give information on planting and cultivating.

3. General Educational Activities.

Circular letters, field meetings, news articles and bulletins will be used along with work of leaders in getting over the necessary information.

C. Tobacco.

1. Goal.

To conduct two (2) disease resistant variety demonstrations in an effort to combat tobacco diseases.

2. Methods to be Used.

- a. locate demonstrations in areas where farmers are having trouble with tobacco diseases.
- b. secure seed variety for demonstrations.
- c. supervise seeding of plots.

3. General Educational Activities.

Educational activities to be carried out in connection with these demonstrations are: field meetings, bringing in specialists to discuss problems with farmers, sending out information through circular letters, bulletins, news articles and leaders and community meetings.

D. Peanuts.

1. Goal

To increase the yield per acre to two thousand (2000) or more

on as many farms as possible and to improve the quality of peanuts.

2. Methods to be Used.

- a. control diseases and insects of this crop.
- b. make soil tests to determine the needs of the land.
- c. acquaint farmers with new varieties of peanuts.

3. General Educational Activities.

Circular letters, bulletins and field meetings will be used to get over necessary information to the farmers. Trips to experiment stations will be made to observe experimental plots.

E. Hogs and Cattle.

1. Goal.

To increase the production of hogs and cattle on most farms in order to add a supplemental income.

2. Methods to be Used.

- a. aid farmers in securing better livestock.
- b. give information on management and care.
- c. work with farmers to provide the necessary pastures and feed for livestock.
- d. give information and aid on controlling diseases and parasites.

3. General Educational Activities.

Holding group meetings to observe results, reports from farmers, demonstrations on care and management of livestock and holding livestock shows and sales whenever possible.

F. Forestry.

1. Goal.

To acquaint farmers with the importance of the farm forest in the agricultural program and the conservation and care of forest products.

2. Methods to be Used.

- a. fence post treating demonstrations.

- b. holding on farms to discuss selective cutting and forest management, meetings pertaining to forestry.
- c. give information on marketing forest products.
- d. information on preventing forest fires.

3. General Educational Activities.

Bringing in specialists to discuss forestry problems with farmers, educational meetings held at farms with forest plots, the use of circular letters and other printed materials to keep the people informed.

G. Farm Buildings.

1. Goal.

To improve the farm and home buildings.

2. Methods to be Used.

- a. acquaint farmers with building available from the extension service.
- b. secure necessary plans for buildings .
- c. aid in planning farms for buildings and repairs.

3. General Educational Activities.

Hold meetings to observe farm buildings and repairs, bring in specialists to discuss farm buildings, pictures and news articles of worthwhile activities.

H. Farm Water Systems.

1. Goal.

To get as many farmers as possible to install pressure water systems on their farms.

2. Methods to be Used.

- a. furnish information to farmers on water systems.
- b. give information on sources of credit and other means of financing this project.
- c. give aid in planning for installations.

3. General Educational Activities.

Group meetings to observe and discuss water systems, discussion on labor saved and advantages of a pressure water system.

I. Leadership.

1. Goal.

To get more efficient leaders.

2. Methods to be Used.

- a. hold more leader training meetings.
- b. keep leaders well informed.
- c. get each community to select more leaders.
- d. inform all leaders of their duties.

3. General Educational Activities.

Assign each leader a duty, make leaders responsible for certain activities in their community and inform other people of leader activities.

Other projects will be conducted with farm people whenever a need arises in an effort to solve problems and bring the desired information needed.

Farm and Home Unit Demonstration.

Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Bland, Sutherland, Virginia

Mr. and Mrs. Carol Greene, Route 1, Carson, Virginia

<u>Demonstrations</u>	<u>Bland Unit</u>	<u>Greene Unit</u>
Pasture	6 acres	6 acres
Corn	3 acres	3 acres
Farm & Home Building Repair	1	1
Peanut		4 acres
Farm Water System	1	
Wheat	3 acres	
Farm & Home Beautification	1	1
Farm & Home Record Keeping	1	1

The above Farm and Home Unit Demonstrations are planned to serve as teaching methods in an effort to inform farm people of the values of improving the farm and home as a unit. Tours and field meetings will be held at these units to observe the improvements and methods and to get the information to others.

County Wide Activities

County Advisory Board meetings	January April July September
4-H Junior Council Meetings	February May September
Planning and Leader Training Meetings	January April June September
County Farmers Conference	March
National 4-H Club Week	March
Rural Life Sunday	May
County Tours	June August September
Field Meetings	May June August September
Adult and 4-H Achievement Day	October

Cooperation With Other Agencies

Other agencies in the county will be aided whenever and wherever possible in putting over their program throughout the county.

Calendar of Activities

December

Reorganize 4-H clubs.
Acquaint 4-H members with new projects.
Work with farmers on farm plans for the coming year.
Reorganize mailing list of families in the county.
Plan for meetings of agricultural groups and committees.
Take soil samples of pastures to determine fertilizer needed.
Official work.

January

Complete reorganization of 4-H clubs and enroll 4-H members.
Work with 4-H members on selecting new projects for 1954.
Tractor maintenance meetings for 4-H members enrolled in this project.
Planning and leader training meetings for 4-H leaders.
County Advisory Board meeting to plan for the year.
Agronomy committee meeting to plan for the year.
Selecting demonstrators with the aid of the county committee.
Planning for county farmers conference.
Contact speakers for county farmers conference.
Send list of recommended varieties of seed for 1954 to farmers.
Adult leader training meeting.
Check topdressing of winter pastures.
Secure seed for tobacco demonstrations.
Contact specialists for forestry meeting.
Official work.

February

4-H Council meeting.
Complete enrollment of 4-H members.
Send 4-H enrollment to state office by last of the month.
Tractor maintenance meetings for 4-H members.
Send copy of 4-H activities for the year to each 4-H leader.
Plan for national 4-H week
Contact all demonstrators to see that they understand what they are to do.
Contact farmers on setting seed and fertilizer on time.
Take soil samples for demonstrators and other farmers.
Winter pasture demonstration field meetings.
Send list of county activities for the year to adult leaders.
Check on tobacco seed beds for tobacco demonstrations.
Work with farmers on repair of farm implements.
Forestry meeting at demonstration plot.
Check plans for national 4-H week.
Official work.

March

4-H leader training meeting.
4-H tractor maintenance meetings.
Check 4-H project work.
Distribute 4-H record books to 4-H members.
Adult leader training meeting.
Agronomy committee meeting.
County farmers conference.
Check on seed and fertilizer for demonstrations with farmers.
Plan for Rural Life Sunday.

National 4-H Club week.
Take soil samples for farmers.
Contact demonstrators.
Contact specialists for small grain field meetings.
Enroll members in 100 bushel corn club and pasture improvement program.
Official work.

April

Leader training meetings 4-H and adult.
4-H tractor maintenance meetings.
Check 4-H project work.
Plan for trips to experiment stations, check for dates for group visits.
County Advisory Board meeting.
Select 4-H members to attend State 4-H Short Course.
Complete enrollment of 100 bushel corn club and pasture improvement members.
Contact all demonstrators, crop and livestock.
Contact ministers and leaders concerning rural life Sunday.
Send materials to farmers on disease and insect control for crops and livestock.
Official work.

May

Rural Life Sunday.
4-H tractor maintenance meetings.
Check 4-H project work.
4-H council meeting.
Small grain field meetings.
Pasture field meetings.
Check on planting demonstrations.
Send spray materials information to farmers on controlling diseases and insects.
Complete list of all demonstrators in the county.
Check on 4-H members to attend state short course.
Contact specialists for field meetings.
Official work.

June

4-H and adult leader training meeting.
Plan for 4-H activities for the summer.
Complete tractor maintenance meetings.
Check 4-H project work.
Select 4-H members to attend the Wildlife and Conservation conference.
Work with farmers on pastures for summer.
Plan for county-wide day of recreation.
Trip to experiment station.
Check demonstrations
Field meetings to observe various fertilizer methods;
Official work.

July

Check delegates to attend Wildlife and Conservation conference.
County day of recreation for 4-H members and adults.
Corn and tobacco field meetings.
County Advisory Board meeting.
Select delegates to attend State Advisory Board meeting.
Check 4-H project work.
Plan for county achievement day.
Official work.

August

Wildlife and conservation conference.
Check 4-H record books with members.
Check crop and livestock demonstrations.
Plan for seeding small grain and pastures in the fall.
Agronomy committee meeting.
Official work.

September

4-H leader training and council meeting.
Plan for 4-H achievement day activities.
Check 4-H project work.
Peanut field meetings.
Seeding pastures and small grains.
Tobacco grading demonstrations.
Check result demonstrations.
Field meetings at demonstrations.
Contact all people to appear on achievement day program.
Official work.

October

Complete and collect all 4-H record books.
Check records for winners with 4-H committee and leaders.
County achievement day, adult and 4-H.
Plan for 4-H winter activities.
Seeding pastures and cover crops also small grain.
Work with farmers on harvesting and storing crops.
Attend annual agents meeting.
Official work.

November

Complete check on all demonstrations conducted during the year,
Complete and send in all annual reports.
Evaluate years work.
Official work.

Name and Address of Adult Result Demonstrators.

Tobacco

P. J. Lundy, Route 1, Mckenney, Virginia
Richard Lewis, Route 2, Mckenney, Virginia
A. G. Edwards, Dinwiddie, Virginia.

Corn

Stanley Blackwell, Route 1, Mckenney, Virginia
J. A. Stewart, Route 1, Petersburg, Virginia
T. W. Bland, Sutherland, Virginia
Carol Greene, Route 1, Carson, Virginia
John Hayes, Route 2, Church Road, Virginia

Pasture

J. A. Stewart, Route 1, Petersburg, Virginia
Carol Greene, Route 1, Carson, Virginia
T. W. Bland, Sutherland, Virginia
E. O. Walker, Route 1, Dewitt, Virginia
Mrs. John Wynn, Route 2, Mckenney, Virginia

Peanuts

Greene Pogram, Route 1, Stony Creek, Virginia
Carol Greene, Route 1, Carson, Virginia

Livestock

W. H. Hardy, Route 2, Mckenney, Virginia
Courtland Greene, Route 1, Dinwiddie, Virginia

Wheat

John Hayes, Route 2, Church Road, Virginia
T. W. Bland, Sutherland, Virginia
W. H. Hardy, Route 2, Mckenney, Virginia

Forestry

T. M. Moody, Route 1, Carson, Virginia

Farm Building and Repair

Courtland Greene, Route 1, Dinwiddie, Virginia

Specialist Help Needed

<u>Specialist</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Month</u>
Mr. M. T. Carter	Pasture & Corn	March & May
Mr. E. M. Matthews	Tobacco	July
Mr. S. B. Fenne	Tobacco	July
Mr. C. E. Gill	Forestry	February
Mr. G. D. Kite	Farm Buildings	March
Mr. R. R. Gordon	Tobacco Grading	September
