

to miss
NYP
VIRGINIA

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT
HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK
CUMBERLAND COUNTY

✓
HOME DEM AGENT ANNUAL REPORT

1942,

Miss Katherine T. Omohundro

Home Demonstration Agent

September 1, 1942 - November 30, 1942
(Two weeks each month)

-1-

REPORT FILES
EXTENSION WORK

TABLE OF CONTENTS

7

	PAGE
I. COVER AND TITLE PAGE	1
II. TABLE OF CONTENTS	2
III. SUMMARY OF INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITIES	3
IV. INTRODUCTION	4
V. ORGANIZATION	5
VI. PROGRAM PLANNING	7
VII. AGENT'S RELATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES	8
VIII. CONCLUSION	8

III. SUMMARY OF INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITIES

Days in field	22½
Days in office	15½
Days annual leave	3
Days sick leave	0
Legal holidays taken	2
Number home visits made	24
Number telephone calls (No. telephone) ..	0
Number individual letters written	275
Number other meetings attended	17
Number of miles travelled.....	1193
Number of Home Demonstration Group Meetings Held	15
Number of Method Demonstrations	5
Number of Nutrition programs conducted ..	3

IV. INTRODUCTION

Cumberland County, Virginia has an area of 288 square miles. The 1940 census gives it a population of 7,505. Of this number approximately 45% are white and 55% negroes. There are three magisterial districts and under the County Board of Agriculture, the county is divided into six communities and 58 neighborhoods.

Cumberland is strictly an agricultural county with tobacco, general crops, beef cattle, poultry, a small amount of dairy, and forest products being the chief sources of income.

There is no railroad in the county and no industries other than saw mills and one small cooperative cannery.

There are three high schools for white children and one central high school for negroes. Home economics is taught in each of these schools. Other organizations that have to do with the welfare and betterment of the county are; the Welfare Department, Health Unit established in July 1942, Rural Electrification, Farm Security Administration, and the Extension Service which consist of only a county agent and one-fourth time 4-H club agent until September 1942 when a part time agent was appointed in the county.

It is hoped that the Soil Conservation program will be extended into the county next year. A petition is ready to go in requesting this service.

V. ORGANIZATION

In September a Home Demonstration Agent was placed for part time work in the county, her salary being paid from a fund set up by the state to establish Home Demonstration work in counties not having a Home Agent. The agent works two weeks each month in Cumberland and two weeks in the adjoining county, Fluvanna.

The Home Agent upon reaching the county contacted the community co-chairmen and in some instances the neighborhood representatives on the County Board of Agriculture, discussed with them the interests and needs for their respective communities, and enlisted their help in getting groups together. In every case they were found most cooperative and eager to get Home Demonstration work started in the county.

The homemakers seem ^{to} be aware of the rapid changes that are being brought about by the world crisis and appreciate the Extension Service's part in helping them to meet these changes and adjust their families to them.

(1) Home Demonstration Clubs

When the Home Demonstration Agent came to the county there was one well organized club in one end of the county. This club has been affiliated with the Powhatan County Clubs, being just over the line. They have been organized several years and have been carrying out an excellent program.

The agent has organized five other Home Demonstration Clubs, making a total of six for the county with a membership of 110. One leader training meeting has been held in the county - a Restyling Clinic. Much interest was shown in this type of work.

The officers, consisting of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and two leaders for project work, have been elected for 1943. The various committee chairmen are to be appointed later.

(2) 4-H Club

Since there hasn't been a Home Agent the 4-H clubs have only had the club agent and leaders to work with them, consequently the girls have had to take agricultural projects. They have done some good work on these projects.

The Home Agent has been meeting with the clubs as they wound up their year's work and elected officers for 1943, and has discussed with the girls their program for the coming year. Whereas a definite program has not been outlined, the clubs have expressed the desire to have a similar program as that adopted by the Home Demonstration Clubs that they, too, may make a real contribution to the great war effort.

It is the desire of the Farm Agent, Club Agent, Home Agent, and Leaders to keep the boys and girls together for their general meeting.

The clubs meet at the schools, the principals cooperating with the program.

There are five 4-H clubs in the county with a membership of 64 girls with a total membership of 112.

VI. PROGRAM PLANNING

The usual procedure in program planning could not be followed in Cumberland County since Home Demonstration work was started too late in the year and the groups wanted timely help on food preservation. However a county program has been worked out based on current conditions and "outlook" information, and when presented to the different groups, has been accepted, the Cartersville Home Demonstration Club being an exception. Their program was worked out with the Powhatan Group.

The program was set up to make it possible for rural people to make a real contribution toward better rural life and the war effort. The Federation goal chosen was Conservation of (1) Health (2) Food and (3) Housing.

Nutrition has been chosen by the various agencies as the County Campaign. Cumberland County was chosen by the State Department of Health as one of the counties in Virginia to put on a special nutrition program. The ground work is being laid for an intensive program put on by all the agencies in the county, schools, Welfare, Red Cross, Health Unit, Farm Security, and Extension Service.

A County Nutrition Committee has been appointed to work with the professional workers in putting across this program. Through the various agencies, Block and neighborhood leaders, and civic organizations, it is hoped that every home in the county will be reached. Definite plans are being made as to how this can be more effectively done.

VII AGENT'S RELATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES

The agent is cooperating with all other agencies as much as the time in the county will permit.

The Professional Workers Council serves as a clearing house for rural problems and will now be able to do a better job of coordination since more agencies are represented.

The Agent has been asked to help with the school lunch program, such as assisting in making out menus, etc.

VIII CONCLUSION

The Agent feels that the homemakers of Cumberland County appreciate the benefits they are deriving from the Extension Service and are eager to reach more and more people with the hope that they can have a full time agent.

The Home Agent appreciates the cooperative attitude of the Farm Agent. He has been so helpful in getting Home Demonstration work started in the county.

The Community and Neighborhood Leaders have done and are doing a splendid job in getting information across.

It is agreed by all agencies working with rural people that more food has been produced, preserved, and stored than ever before in the history of the county.