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management decisions relating to the farm operation and family life of farm families. The program will be directed toward providing farmers with the information, training, and tools necessary to help them in making and carrying out sound business management decisions for the achievement of designated family goals.

- b. The immediate recognized needs are to have more farmers keep better records and analyze their present farming operation to determine areas to improve their efficiency in an effort to raise the farm income and improve their standard of living.
- c. In 1961 the agents will help farmers study their situation, determine alternatives, set objectives and goals, formulate a plan of action, evaluate where possible, make periodic adjustments and follow through to reach objectives and goals.
- d. The program will be taken to the people by radio, press, general meetings, farm visits, circular and news letters, tours and any other means of effective communication.
- e. Goals
 - 1. Work with at least 6 farmers on the mail-in records program this year.
 - 2. Use crop and livestock enterprise budgets on the 6 farms that are on the mail-in records program and as many more as possible in an effort to improve the farmer's efficiency.
 - 3. Have 6 farmers plant a 1-acre corn plot in their regular crop and manage according to VPI recommendations in an effort to compare the results on the fertility level of the land.
 - 4. Have 3 farmers use their farms in the farm management analysis program to determine the best enterprise or combination of enterprises to return them the maximum with their given set of resources.

XVI. Rural Development Program

- a. Since Cumberland County was selected to work on the Rural Development Program the following steps have been taken - a meeting was held for the county leaders to be introduced to the program. A county rural development committee was selected. A chairman and secretary were elected for the county group. A survey was conducted to determine the industrial needs in the county, the available labor, etc. With the help of the Virginia Electric & Power Company representatives, a large county brochure was published containing all facts necessary for an industry to determine if it would like to come to the county. A small county brochure for wider publication has also been prepared and distributed.

County committees have been appointed to work on problems in the county in the following fields: Agriculture, Health & Nutrition, Home Beautification, Industry, Education, and Consumer Education. The county chairman has also appointed a Steering, Coordinating, and Relations committee to handle any problems that may arise.

b. Goals

1. Assist the rural development committee and the sub-committees from this group in organizing and carrying out their programs.
2. Give intensified on-the-farm assistance to individual farm families; giving counsel and assisting them in analyzing their present situation and discussing alternative plans and opportunities.
3. Explore the possibilities of new crops or enterprises that may be used to increase the income of the county.
4. Act as technical advisors to any of the committees under the Rural Development Program.
5. Assist the county chairman in calling any meeting of the entire county rural development committees.
6. Work with farm families as outlined in Section XVII of this plan of work.

XVII. Farm Management

- a. Since Cumberland County has been selected as a rural development pilot county, a great deal of emphasis will be put on Farm Management in 1961. The Farm Management Program will provide the necessary requirements for making good, sound

8. Sponsor at least one 4-H party for the Senior 4-H Clubs.
9. Have 28 4-H members plant pine seedlings as projects.
10. Have at least 80% project completions.
11. Have at least 10 club members enter exhibits in the Virginia State Fair.
12. Have at least one 4-H Club member submit a record for State competition.
13. Have five 4-H Club members participate in the Junior Broilers Growers contest.
14. Have three 4-H Club members participate in the 4-H Club egg production contest.
15. Have all community 4-H Clubs erect window displays for 4-H Club Week.

XIV. Cooperation with ASC

A. Goals

1. The agents will continue to serve as ex officio members to the county committee and be in charge of educational work.

The radio, press, general meetings, and farm visits will be used to publicize the program.

XV. Cooperation with District Soil Conservation Program

- a. In the past very few farmers have been taking advantage of the complete soil conservation plan, however, many are following some conservation practices.

b. Goals

1. Urge more farmers to take advantage of the complete soil conservation plan.
2. Help local representative of Soil Conservation Service in making contacts with farmers. Radio, news articles, general meetings, and farm visits will be used to familiarize the farmer with the program.
3. Cooperate with farmers in SCS in an effort to start a watershed project in Cumberland.

leaders and to add some additional joint projects which will interest high school boys and will not compete with F.F.A. projects; also provide more recreation for all club members.

- c. In 1961 an effort will be made to try to get at least one volunteer leader for each club. Also joint projects will be conducted in all clubs from the fifth grade up. Also more emphasis will be placed on recreation and tours in all clubs.
- d. The program will be taken to the people by using specialists, radio, press, circular letters, general meetings, 4-H meetings, special meetings, achievement day programs, tours, picnics, fairs, camps, and project visits.
- e. Camp will be held in August this year. The achievement program will be held on the first Friday in April. The fair will be held the last full week in September. The picnics will be held in May. The other activities will be taken care of at the time of year that it is felt the best results can be obtained.
- f. The 4-H picnics will be held on the school grounds. The boys and girls will attend 4-H Camp at Holiday Lake. The county achievement program will be held at the Cumberland High School. Cumberland 4-H Club members will exhibit at the Farmville Five County Fair, and the Virginia State Fair.

g. Goals

- 1. Conduct the 4-H Electric Project in all clubs from the sixth grade up, beginning in December and running through March.
- 2. Have 25 boys attend the district camp at Holiday Lake; also have the county represented at the State Short Course and State Conservation Camp.
- 3. Hold a county 4-H Achievement Day Program at the Cumberland High School the first Friday in April and give out county medals for each project taken.
- 4. Sponsor the 4-H Sears Roebuck pig project in the John Randolph district.
- 5. Have at least 25 boys take part in the Farmville Five County Fair.
- 6. Have 4-H members represent the county by participating in 7 different events at the district contests.
- 7. Sponsor the 4-H Sears Roebuck pullet chain in the county during 1961.

- c. In 1961 farmers will be encouraged to improve their farm woods and to protect farm woods from fire and grazing.

Farmers and 4-H Club members will be encouraged to plant pines on land that has been cut or burnt over, and land not suited for other farm practices. Also a hardwood poisoning demonstration will be continued.

- d. The program will be taken to the people by radio, circular letters, press, tours, bulletins, meetings, and farm visits.
- e. Educational information will be presented at timely intervals.
- f. A tour will be held on the State forest. The demonstration will be conducted on Route No. 60, west of Cumberland.
- g. The forestry committee, extension agents, specialists and the Virginia Forest Service will cooperate on the program.
- h. Goals

- 1. Have twenty-eight 4-H Club members plant pine seedlings as a 4-H project.
- 2. Have 6 farmers plant pines who have not done so in the past.
- 3. Conduct an educational tour through the Cumberland State Forest.
- 4. Continue to work with the hardwood poisoning demonstration on Rt. 60, and get 3 farmers to poison a plot of scrub hardwoods in order to release pines on the land.

XII. County Farm Organizations

- a. Continue to work with the county farm organizations in an educational way.

XIII. 4-H Club Work

- a. In 1949 there were three 4-H Clubs in the county, with an enrollment of 67 boys. In 1959 there were 11 clubs organized in the county, with an enrollment of 246 boys. This rate of increase cannot be continued as we are now reaching a very high percentage of the boys that are of club age.

The reasons for our increase in club enrollment are the cooperation of teachers, leaders and parents, and the breaking down of the clubs into age groups.

- b. The immediate recognized needs are to obtain more volunteer

b. Goals

1. The agents will assist in the farm labor program when needed.
2. The agents will encourage farmers to make better use of their labor and utilize it to a better advantage in an effort to improve the whole efficiency of the farming operation.

VIII. Agricultural Planning

- a. In 1956 special interest committees were set up for agronomy, livestock, dairy, poultry and forestry. Each of these committees met a sufficient number of times to set up long-time goals and plan a program for reaching the goals.

b. Goals

1. Hold meetings of all special interest committees and have them draw up plans that will be used in 1961 toward reaching their long-time goals.
2. Set up a committee on Youth and various committees on the Rural Development Program as needed.

IX. Farm & Home Development Program

- a. Since Cumberland is a rural development pilot county and many phases of this program are similar to the Farm & Home Development Program, a great deal of emphasis will be put on the farm management program in 1961.

b. Goals

1. Work with 6 new families in addition to the ones worked with in previous years.

X. Cooperatives

- a. The agents will continue to work with the cooperatives in the county in an educational way.

XI. Forestry

- a. Two-thirds of Cumberland County is now in some type of woods. The timber and pulpwood on this land is being cut at a much faster rate than it is growing back. A large percentage of this land is growing up in worthless hardwoods.
- b. The immediate recognized needs are more selective cuttings of timber and farm forest improvement; also a need for planting more seedling pines on land not suited to crops and on land growing scrub hardwoods.

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have a variety of vegetables. Also many do not have any fall gardens.

Due to the high cost of living, the lack of money due to adverse weather conditions and price-cost squeeze, it is more necessary than ever that every farm family have a good early and late garden.

- b. The immediate recognized needs are to have each farmer have a good well-rounded garden program.

- c. Goals

- 1. Stress gardens at 2 monthly meetings of all thirteen 4-H Clubs to get them to help plan and grow a better garden at home.
- 2. Devote 3 radio programs to proper garden management.
- 3. See that all merchants and seed men have information on recommended varieties of seed and proper insecticides.

- B. Fruits

- a. The only fruit trees we have are in small home orchards.

- b. Goals

- 1. Devote one radio talk to the latest methods of pruning, spraying, and tree management. Also furnish information on tree management to any interested farmer.

- C. Small Fruit

- a. Approximately 40% of our farmers have some type of small fruit plantings for home use. Also a few farmers sell some grapes and strawberries.
- b. It is felt that most of our farmers should attempt to grow enough grapes and berries for their own use.

- c. Goals

- 1. Encourage 6 farmers to put in enough grapes or berries for their own use. These to be farmers who do not grow small fruit at the present time.

- VII. Farm Labor

- a. At the present time it does not look like the farm labor situation will present too great a problem this year.

- b. The livestock committee recommends that farmers improve the quality of livestock by culling, purchasing better foundation stock and by buying only good type registered sires. Farmers should practice a better feeding and management program in the herd and take advantage of grading and marketing facilities available.

The quality of sheep could be greatly improved in the county and the number increased.

- c. In 1961 sanitation, feeding, and management practices will be stressed. Farmers selling beef calves will be encouraged to sell them in feeder calf sales.

Hog growers will be encouraged to buy only locally grown pigs from healthy herds or from feeder pig sales and follow a good sanitation and management practice. Feeder pig producers will be encouraged to consign pigs to a feeder pig sale.

- d. The program will be taken to the people by radio, circular letters, tours, meetings, bulletins, farm visits, and livestock committee.
- e. The extension livestock committee, specialists, extension agents and other professional agricultural workers will cooperate to carry out the program.

f. Goals

1. Assist 14 farmers in selecting a good registered sire.
2. Get 4 new members to put calves in the feeder calf sale.
3. Increase the number of sheep in the county by 60.
4. Work with 16 farmers, encouraging them to cull out all cows with dairy breeding and replace them with well-bred beef cows or heifers.
5. Get 20 farmers to enter pigs in the Richmond Feeder Pig Sale in 1961.
6. Get 5 farmers to participate in the VPI Mail-In Farm Records Program.

VI. Horticulture

A. Home Vegetable Garden Production

- a. A large percentage of our county people have some type of home garden, however, a lot of these gardens are small and do not

cream. The number of cows is increasing in both the Grade A and B herds in the county. However, many of the Grade A producers, and some of the Grade B producers should concentrate on reducing their total number of head in the milking herd and replace the low producing cows in order to improve their efficiency.

- b. The dairying committee felt that better dairy management, proper culling of cow herds, improved quality milk and the use of better herd sires were problem areas of work for 1961.
- c. In 1961 farmers will be encouraged to cull their herds and, if necessary, purchase some good high producing cows and also purchase and use good registered sires. Farmers will be urged to continue to make use of the D.H.I.A. in the county and take advantage of the artificial breeding program that is available. Farmers will be assisted with the construction of dairy barns, milking parlors, water systems, etc. Also stress good management and sanitation practices.
- d. The program will be taken to the people by the dairy committee, radio, press, circular letters, bulletins, meetings and farm visits.
- e. The dairy committee, specialists, extension agents and other professional agricultural workers will cooperate on this program.
- f. Goals
 - 1. Get 3 Grade A and 1 Grade B dairymen to participate in the Farm Management Analysis Program.
 - 2. Assist 4 farmers to cull their herd that are not following a strict culling program at the present time.
 - 3. Encourage 7 farmers who are not doing so at the present time to use artificial breeding of their dairy cows.
 - 4. Have 2 Grade A and 3 Grade B dairymen to participate in the VPI Electronic Mail-In Farm Records Program.

V. General Livestock

- a. The hog and sheep numbers have been fairly constant in the county over the past few years. However, beef cattle have increased from 852 in 1950 to 2408 in 1960. Farmers have concentrated on numbers of beef cows and neglected type, breeding, and quality. A number of farmers are selling through feeder calf and pig sales, but many are still marketing through local auctions. Farmers will be urged to sell more on a graded basis through feeder sales in the future and this will help a great deal in getting them to be more type, breed, and quality conscious.

- a. The number of chickens, including broilers, sold from Cumberland County has increased from 754,575 in 1955 to 948,984 in 1960. The number of breeding and commercial laying flocks also has increased in the county over the past number of years. The dozens of eggs sold has increased from 202,390 in 1955 to 248,120 in 1960.
- b. The poultry committee felt that problems and areas of work for 1961 are an improved market outlet, a good management and sanitation program, a standard price scale for hatchery eggs, improved diagnostic laboratory facilities, stress the importance of well constructed buildings that meet the proper specifications set up by VPI, and they recommended that the stray dog law for the county be enforced.
- c. In 1961 the agents will help interested farmers in obtaining recommended plans for poultry houses and equipment, also in locating houses. Sanitation and management practices will be stressed, also farmers will be urged to buy chicks from reliable state hatcheries. Committees will check to see what can be done to improve on the stray dog law and the diagnostic laboratory facilities.
- d. The program will be taken to the people by radio, press, general meetings, bulletins, and farm visits.
- e. Various materials will be presented at the proper time to be of the most benefit to the farmers.
- f. Goals
 1. Schedule 2 informative training meetings for the poultry feed dealers in the area.
 2. Work with 18 poultrymen, helping them improve the management and sanitation practices in their poultry operations.
 3. Have 7 farmers use the litter from their chicken houses on fields that will give the greatest returns from this type fertilizer.
 4. Get 5 farmers to build a disposal pit to help prevent the spread of poultry diseases in the county.
 5. Assist 3 egg producers in culling out their layers that are out of production.

IV. Dairying

- a. At the present time we have 20 farmers selling Grade A milk in Cumberland County, 42 Grade B producers, and a few farmers selling

at an even greater rate than alfalfa acreage; also a great many of the farmers in the county depend chiefly on lespedeza and other late hay crops and have not included any early hay crop in their rotation system. This as a primary factor has caused many farmers to suffer a complete hay crop loss during extremely dry years.

The Agronomy Committee felt that farmers should make every effort to plan a rotation that would give an ample supply of early, as well as late hay even in dry years, and should try to get their hay acreage more in line with their livestock numbers as well as increase their present acreage of alfalfa from 1,000 to 1,800 acres and increase the yield per acre to 3 tons.

- b. In 1961 the importance of proper fertilization, liming, and proper cutting and curing different types of hay will be stressed. Farmers will be encouraged to seed more clover and grass mixtures for early hay crops, and also more alfalfa on land suitable to it. Farmers will be urged to pay closer attention to alfalfa insects and diseases and make a better job of controlling them; also weed control in alfalfa will be stressed.
- c. The program will be presented by radio, press, general meetings, bulletins, and farm visits.
- d. The different programs will be presented when each topic is timely.
- e. The extension agents, professional agricultural workers and agronomy committee will cooperate in carrying out the program.
- f. Goals
 - 1. Get 6 farmers who plan to seed alfalfa to seed in the early part of August so that ample growth can be obtained before cold weather.
 - 2. Seed 350 acres of alfalfa on land suitable for this crop.
 - 3. Get 7 farmers to take soil samples on old stands of alfalfa and follow lime and fertilizer recommendations.
 - 4. Increase the amount of clover grass hay mixtures by 5%.
 - 5. Have 4 farmers manage their alfalfa properly so as to leave ample growth in the fall to prevent winter kill.
 - 6. Have 5 farmers plant a nematode resistant variety of lespedeza who have lost stands in the past due to nematode injury.

III. Poultry

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1. Have 6 farmers seed a cover crop who have not been doing so in the past.
 2. Increase the total acreage seeded to cover crops by 3% over 1960.

E. Tobacco

The average yield on all tobacco grown in Cumberland County, which includes the following four types - flue-cured, dark fire cured, dark air cured and burley is relatively close to that of the State average and in many instances exceeds it. The Agronomy Committee recommended that tobacco growers strive to raise their yield to equal that of the state average and also improve the quality of their tobacco. The goal could easily be achieved if tobacco growers would follow the recommendations of the V.P.I. Experiment Station on plant bed management, varieties, fertilization, disease control and eradication as well as proper curing, ordering and grading.

- b. The Agronomy Committee felt that if tobacco growers would increase their per-acre yield of at least equal to the state average, and at the same time improve the quality of their product, would help to offset the handicap of having their acreage cut. This would enable a farmer to receive greater maximum returns per acre.
- c. The agronomy committee, extension agents and other professional agricultural workers will cooperate in every way possible to carry out the program and will take it to the people by special meetings, radio, press, farm visits, bulletins and tours.
- d. Goals

1. Have 5 new farmers use recommended chemicals to control weeds in their plant beds, and seed beds to a cover crop.
2. Have 6 farmers take soil samples on tobacco land and follow recommendations. These to be farmers who have not been taking soil samples.
3. Increase the per-acre yield and quality 4% on all farms producing less than the state average.
4. Have 3 farmers plant a disease resistant variety who have had low yields and poor quality in the past because disease was the primary contributing factor to crop failure.

F. Hay

- a. Livestock numbers and alfalfa acreage have been increasing in the county over the past few years, but livestock numbers have increased

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- b. The Agronomy Committee feels that the greatest need today is to have all farmers seed good clean recommended seed, treat their seed for diseases, make a good seed bed preparation, and use proper amounts of fertilizer.
 - c. Since Cumberland County is working on the soil fertility program in 1961, an effort will be made to get more soil samples taken on small grain fields. An effort has been made to get seed dealers to stock recommended varieties so as to get these varieties seeded on the farms not using them.
 - d. The agronomy committee, radio, press, circular letters, farm visits, and bulletins will be used to carry the program to the people.
 - e. Goals for 1961
 - 1. Encourage a large number of farmers to take soil samples of their small grain land. Have 6 farmers take soil samples of small grain land who have not done so before and follow recommendations.
 - 2. Have 5 farmers spray their small grain for the control of garlic or onions.
 - 3. Due to the increase in diseases in our small grain, we will try to get 6 farmers to seed disease resistant, recommended varieties of small grain in 1961.

D. Winter Cover Crops

- a. Each year a valuable portion of our tillable farm acreage is reduced by erosion due to the fact that a number of farmers do not plant a winter cover crop. However, the majority of the farmers do not have this problem to cope with because a winter cover crop is included in their farm rotation.
- b. In order to get more farmers to seed a winter cover crop on their farms, the agronomy committee suggested that this be emphasized at every available opportunity, and further stated that should farmers follow good cultural and rotation practices that these winter cover crops will provide an excellent source of cheap nitrogen as well as provide temporary pastures and silage for their livestock.
- c. The agronomy committee, farm visits, tours, radio, press, general meetings and every available means of communication will be used to take the program to the people.

d. Goals

farmer can do to improve his program.

3. Reseed 350 acres of permanent pasture that is not providing an ample number of grazing days.
4. Seed 1,000 acres of additional permanent pasture on farms that are overgrazing and do not have adequate grazing for their livestock.
5. Encourage 6 farmers to seed supplemental pasture who need this extra source of feed and are not at the present following this practice.
- e. Specialists, as well as local committeemen, will be needed to carry out certain parts of the program, especially the Field Day and tour.

B. Hybrid Corn

- a. Our farmers are using an average of 500 lbs. of fertilizer per acre on their corn, however, there are some who use much less than this. There are still some farmers who do not use adapted hybrid varieties or follow good management practices. Also many farmers still grow corn on land unsuited for row crops.
- b. In order to get low producing farmers to use improved practices, corn fertility and management demonstrations will be conducted in all sections of the county. Field meetings will be held at these demonstrations to point out the advantages of following the soil test in liming and fertilizing, using a recommended hybrid, and following good cultural practices. It is felt that this will help increase the corn yield in the county.
- c. Goals for 1961
 1. Set up 8 corn fertility and management demonstrations on farms using less than 500 lbs. of fertilizer per acre on their corn. These demonstrations to be set up in different sections of the county. Also hold field meetings at these demonstrations.
 2. Have each of the 1-acre demonstrations fertilized and limed according to soil test recommendations. Have recommended hybrid planted on each plot, and spray for weeds, if necessary.

C. Small Grain

- a. Our small grain yields, in general, are in line with other crops. Most farmers' yield has increased the past few years, however, there are still some farmers that have a yield too low to be profitable.

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I. General Problems and Needs of the County

The following are the major problems and needs of the county as determined by the committees of the Agricultural Extension Service Board and the Extension agents: Marketing facilities for poultry and livestock, inadequate feed program for livestock, disease and insect control in crops, low crop yields in certain sections of the county, disease and parasite control in livestock, and the management of our farm woods.

The following are some of the major enterprises and projects that the agents expect to stress and promote in Cumberland County in 1961. The plan outlined below will be followed with the assistance of the County Agricultural Extension Service Board, County Professional Agricultural Workers, District Agent, Specialists and others.

II. Agronomy

A. Pastures

- a. The county pasture program has improved the past two years. Our acreage in improved pastures has increased, and the number of grazing days has increased considerably in the past 5 years. Many pastures have been reseeded, and more farmers are fertilizing and managing their pastures properly. However, there are still farmers who do not have improved pastures, and farmers who do not fertilize properly and also overgraze their pastures.
- b. In 1961 farmers will be encouraged to reseed pastures that have died out, use proper fertilization and management, take more soil samples and follow recommendations. The county-wide pasture program will be continued, and farmers will be encouraged to practice controlled grazing.
- c. In order to reach the people who are not following these recommended practices, the agents, along with other agricultural agencies and members of the Extension committees will use the radio, press, circular letters, farm visits, general meetings, and organized tours in order to call their attention to good pastures and what they can do to improve theirs.
- d. Goals for 1961
 1. Work with 10 farmers who have not been testing the soil from their pastures. Have them take samples and top-dress according to the soil test recommendations.
 2. In order to show farmers the advantage of a good, well-managed forage program, the Extension Agronomy, Livestock and Dairy Committees will cooperate with the agents in sponsoring a Field Day. The tour will show what the average

PLAN OF WORK

CUMBERLAND COUNTY, VIRGINIA

1961

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