

EVALUATION OF YEAR'S WORK (Cont'd)

Items	Planned	Accomplished
Forestry		
New demonstration	1	
Old demonstration	3	
Four-H project	2	5
	6	
Running water		
New systems	4	0
Community Improvement	1	1
Four-H clubs	3	3

As recorded above, these are some of the various project demonstrations established for educational purposes to help motivate the interest of more people into establishing sound farm and home practices. Yet, we feel that our major accomplishments have not been within the projects which have been conducted but within the number of persons that have been encouraged to do a better job because of the influence received by witnessing the demonstrations. Tours, field meetings and discussions have been used to bring out the important factors involved in these various demonstrations. It has been encouraging to witness the interest of the many people that have visited these various demonstrations. As we travel through the county and see signs of progress, we can pick out some of farm and home owners that have gained some knowledge from what they have seen and heard by visiting these demonstrations, attending farm meetings and consulting the extension agent.

We realize that the economical standards of our farm people are not keeping pace with industry and other business organizations, but we do feel that the extension program has made it possible for farmers to recognize many of their problems earlier than they would have otherwise if they had not had access to the services rendered; therefore, making it possible for them to curb any financial risk that could destroy their entire farming program. Therefore as the result of sharing the needs, applying recommended practices, and using efficient work methods a larger percentage of our farmers have been able to accelerate their farming program more than fifty percent.

Education being the major objective of the extension program, we can be assured that an increasing number of farmers have found our services necessary or desirable to fulfill and exercise their rights and responsibilities more effectively in the home, on the farm and in their communities. Signs of progress illustrates the evidence of the extension program meeting the ever changing conditions and demands. Our major accomplishments have been recorded through the increased interest, improved methods of farming, improved standards of living and a better understanding among people.

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In accordance to the needs of the people, we attempted to set up a plan of work that would promote better farming practices and improve the standards of living of the people in Worcester County by applying certain sound recommended practices according to the available opportunities and letting the people help themselves by participating and joining in on educational demonstrations and meetings. The following projects were planned and accomplished:

Items		Planned	Accomplished
Corn Hybrid Demonstrations			
Corn hybrids	2		
Varietal corn hybrid	1		
Fertilization plot	1	4	4
Weed control (Chemical)		2	2
Soybean Demonstrations			
Soybeans	2		
Soybean-varietal	1		
Soybean-fertilization	2	5	4
Pasture Demonstrations			
Permanent pasture	2		
Summer pasture	2		
Fall pasture	2		
Pasture fertilization	1		
New pasture	1	8	13
Small Grain			
Wheat	1		
Wheat-fertilization	1		
Oats	1		
Barley	1	4	4
Livestock			
Purebred hogs	2	5	5
Breeding	1		
Feeding	1		
Sanitation	1		
Foultry	16	16	16
Horticulture			
Garden	2		
Garden-contest	10		
Home orchard	1	13	16
Landscaping			
a. Old dem.	3		
b. New dem.	1		
c. Church	1	5	5

The local agent participated in 71 county meetings which had a total attendance of 2685 persons. These meetings included educational gatherings, method demonstrations, result demonstrations, community meetings, tours, field meetings, committee meetings, fairs, achievement days and various county organizational meetings. The extension agent also participated in 27 meetings with a total attendance of 483 persons in older youth and young men and women work. Forty-five meetings were held or participated in by the extension agent that involved 4-H members with a total attendance of 2026 persons.

In emphasizing the extension program in Gloucester County the following areas have constituted the major core of the program, (A) Production of fruits, vegetables, crops and livestock; (B) Marketing of horticultural products, soybeans, corn, hay and small grains; (C) Conservation of natural resources; (D) Farm and Home Management practices; (E) Better family living in relation to better health, safety, food and nutrition, clothing and family economics; (F) Youth development through 4-H work; (G) Community development through the community improvement project, and (H) Leadership development through local 4-H leaders, junior and adult, county committeemen and advisory board members.

EVALUATION OF YEAR'S WORK

The Extension Program in Gloucester County can only be evaluated in the respect of meeting the needs of the people. The program has been designed to carry practical information received from experiment stations, land grant colleges and the department of agriculture to the people in a usable form according to their desires and needs. To weigh the influences of this information according to practical applications relating to agriculture and home economics would be quite difficult. The influence of extension teachings can only be measured according to the number of changes made as the result of the extension program emphasized. Many changes are made as the result of direct contacts and others have been made as the result of indirect methods. Since it is so difficult to record all of the changes which have been made according to recommendations as the result of extension teachings and influence the wide spread participation can only be measured informally.

In attempting to evaluate some of the influence and accomplishments that can be recognized as the result of planning and conducting an effective extension program, we can only rely on the amount of cooperation received, projects established, demand for services, adjustments made and leadership developed. As an extension agent, we have attempted to keep informed of the needs of the people and accelerate our extension program accordingly. All evidence point toward a better understanding, increased interest and applied practices of good sound farm management are improving.

Increased demand for the extension agent's service emphasizes that certain needs are being recognized by farmers and they are they are developing a greater need for training in management and family resources. It is impossible for us to give justice to all the calls that we receive concerning farm and home problems, since we do not have sufficient assistance to help carry out the work efficiently, but we do work long hours trying to meet every possible demand for our services in accordance with their importance.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE

In attempting to make a summary of all the work done in relation to the Extension Program in Gloucester County would be impossible. However, some of the basic contributing factors and projects used in trying to emphasize some of the best recommended practices for improving the standards of living in Gloucester County can be found in the following statements. The Extension Program has been developed according to the needs of the people. The one overall organization that has assisted the extension agent with planning and conducting extension work in the county is the county agricultural advisory board. The county agricultural advisory board has membership of fifty-one, four meetings were held this year with a total of 132 members present.

The county extension program is based on the needs of the people and these needs are only recognized as the result of surveys. Chairmen of the fourteen organized communities in the county are the census reporters for their respective communities. Community surveys are necessary to get first hand information for developing a good sound extension program. Census reports are quite helpful but the grass root information is obtained through good leadership directly from the source concerned. Fourteen community chairmen and fifty-four neighborhood leaders have assisted the local agent in compiling the necessary information for developing the county program according to the needs of the people. In order for the needs of the people to be analyzed and given proper consideration the following committees are appointed by the advisory board to study the situation and work out solutions to improve the conditions; Agronomy, Livestock, Home Improvement, Community Improvement, 4-H Club, Forestry, Garden, Fair, and Planning. As the result of proper planning these various committees sponsor and promote educational activities that involve recommended practices of the extension service. In return a movement is started to help improve the living conditions of people through better management and the use of improved practices.

During the past twelve months the extension agent worked 268 days and travelled 17,370 miles conducting the extension program in Gloucester County. One thousand two hundred and fifty-seven farm and home visits were made to assist farmers and home makers with their farm and home problems and to receive information concerning extension activities. Two thousand and seventy six office calls were made by farmers and other citizens to receive information in relation to improved farming practices, better farm and home development practices, community development projects, adjustments in family farm economy, and effective farm and home management. Two thousand one hundred and ninety-nine telephone calls were made and received to help accelerate the extension program, to insure an understanding of problems and recommendations. Thirteen radio broadcast were made and forty-six news articles were published to help influence better family living. One thousand eight hundred and thirty-one bulletins were distributed to help raise the educational level and broaden the range of interest of rural people as well as help them to identify some of their own problems. Fifty-six training meetings were held for local leaders with an attendance of 794 leaders. Fifty-nine training meetings were held with young men and women and 4-H work with a total attendance of 1183. Leaders that attended these meetings included project leaders, local leaders, and committeemen assisting the extension agent in carrying on extension work.

County Agricultural Fair: (Cont'd)

Mrs. Ethel K. Jones, Miss. Maline Moore, Miss Julie Green and Miss. Jaunice Chapman were judges for the home products and group exhibits. T. W. Allen, C. E. Calendar, Lawrence Wynn, and J. M. Johnson were judges for the field crops, horticultural products and livestock; S. E. Marshall was also present.

The county agricultural advisory board was pleased at the accomplishments of the fair committee and plans are being made to sponsor the same type of activity for 1959.

FARM AND HOME DEVELOPMENT WORK

A. W. Lemon, Sassafras, Virginia was selected by the advisory board to conduct the farm and home development project. We have not been able to give the assistance necessary for the project, because the program is quite difficult for one agent to give justice to all of the farm and home problems. However for 1958, the following goals were set for consideration in the farm and home unit development program which Lemon is conducting: (1) Increase corn yields to 100 bushels per acre; (2) Complete the running water and bath system; (3) Increase the poultry flock from 400 to 600 birds; (4) Establish a one acre ladino-clover orchard grass pasture for livestock; (5) Cooperate with the SCS, ASC and Forestry Service; (6) Improve farm buildings by painting and renovating; (7) Improve home grounds and paint the inside of the house, and (8) Increase soybean yield to 30 bushels per acre.

Methods to be used in accomplishing these objectives were; (1) To assist the demonstrator with the selection of various farm and home equipment; (2) Help keep the demonstrator informed on latest developments; (3) Use the assistance of specialist when ever possible; (4) Assist the demonstrator with farm and home inventories, and (5) Make frequent farm and home visits to keep the project up to date and follow through with the farm and home program.

As the result of these various methods used, the following accomplishments have been witnessed. The livestock pasture has been established according to the recommendations of the extension service and Lemon reports that his feed bills have been reduced approximately 45 percent. Twenty acres of forest land have been cut over and seedlings were left according to the forest seed law. Money received from the sale of the timber will be used this next year in renovating the barns, poultry houses and continue with the running water system.

As the result of conducting this farm and home development project, Lemon as been able to learn how to keep records and plan more intelligently. As a part of the program Mr and Mrs. Lemon are able to set down and work out their plans together and this results in a better understanding of the farm and home problems from both sides. We are expecting to continue with this particular family in the program and plan along with Mrs. Lemon on attempted developments for the family food supply, interior decorations and general furnishings and arrangements. Lemon has definitely gained more knowledge about his own farm by cooperating with the program

COUNTY AGRICULTURAL FAIR

The County Agricultural Fair is sponsored annually by the county agricultural advisory board. The fair has been sponsored by the advisory board for thirteen years. It is operated on a non-profit basis. Exhibits and finances are contributed by farmers and business organizations of the county. A special fair committee is appointed by the advisory board to make plans for the purpose of meeting the needs of the people. The county fair is an activity that has been operated on the basis of good will and cooperative community spirit. To the extension agent it seems to be one county project that coordinates practically all of the projects conducted under the supervision of the extension program. The main purpose of promoting a county fair is to include as many of the products and by-products that are being produced and processed in the county as the result of extension planning. Each year farmers, housewives and youth come back looking for that inspiration which they can not get from any other activity which the fair program offers in relationship to good wholesome community living. The county fair also serves as an educational activity, because when people exhibit good items many others are given an opportunity to learn. The exhibitor is given an opportunity to learn by doing and the observer is given an equal advantage to learn when something interesting and important attracts his attention. When we travel from farm to farm it is interesting to learn by observing; However, the same idea is developed on a smaller scale when farmers pull together a few of the best that they have to show at the county fair.

The final reports of the fair showed that 527 items were exhibited by farmers, housewives, 4-H members, NFA, NHA, FFA members and community organizations. The fair was held at the Thomas C. Walker School, Coanes, Virginia, October 2-4. One hundred and eighty-seven First, Second and Third place awards were given, which included sixty-four first place awards. The total cash awards were \$256.50. Items exhibited included field crops, horticultural products, canned fruits and vegetables, pastries, needlecraft, group exhibits, arts and crafts, shop work and educational work done by 4-H members, NFA, NHA and FFA members.

Funds for the fair were solicited through community leaders, churches, county organizations, business establishments and placard advertisements. The total monies received was \$357.25.

On Friday evening and Saturday afternoon the program committee conducted educational activities which involved demonstrations, talks, summary of activities and projects conducted from ten of the thirteen organized communities. Four-H members gave demonstrations and talks on their various projects. Miss. Elaine Moore, Local Home Agent, King and Queen County, spoke to a group of farmers and youth on the subject "How to select, prepare and display exhibits at the fair for best results. Also as a part of the program, various communities were given an opportunity to demonstrate their talents through songs, skits, demonstrations, recitations and team work.

Approximately four hundred and seventy-five persons witnessed the occasion Judges were: Dr. W. L. Watson, Mrs. Follie Lee, Mrs. Mary F. Atkins and Mrs. Edna White for flowers.

practices in the production of sweet potatoes. Ivy Clayborne won First prize and Morris Clayborne won Second prize for the county; prizes were \$5.00 and \$3.00 respectively. Prize monies for the show and sale are donated from the counties participating in the contest. The adult 4-H leaders from Gloucester County donated \$12.00 as the share authorized for each of the participating counties. As the result of this sweet potato show 4-H members and participating parents in Gloucester County are becoming very much interested in the project and they have pledged their support in trying to increase the number of 4-H members that are now enrolled in sweet potato projects. This year three boys will participate in the show and sale. We are still hoping to increase our quota for next year.

Adult 4-H Leadership:

The Gloucester County Adult 4-H Leader Group has conducted various projects to defray the expenses of the county 4-H program. These twenty five voluntary leaders have been responsible for the finance of sending fifteen delegates and two leaders to the annual short course, three delegates and one leader to the wild life conference and six leaders to the district 4-H leaders training meeting. This year the 4-H leader group sponsored five socials and one picnic for 4-H members and parents which had a total attendance of 782. The twenty five leaders have conducted 132 demonstrations and assisted clubmembers in making 166 garments and items for homes and rooms. These leaders have travelled many miles in the process of helping clubmembers with their projects voluntarily and the number of hours that they have spent with clubmembers and parents in trying to get clubmembers to complete their projects can be totalled among the hundreds, but even through this hardship our leaders have done a wonderful job in assisting the local farm agent with ideas and helpful movements that could not have been possible for one person to do. This year the 4-H leader group witnessed a total of \$1158.00 from fund raising drives which they have conducted to help promote the county 4-H program. The 4-H leaders group will plan nothing short of the needs and desires of a well planned 4-H program in Gloucester County for 1959.

Achievement Day:

Six hundred and fifty persons witnessed the annual achievement day program at Thomas C. Walker School, Boanas, Virginia, Friday October 3, 1958. Each of the three organized clubs exhibited at the fair. Items exhibited were selected from the members projects. Projects, records and groups exhibited received \$37.50 in prizes.

Clubmembers, parents, leaders and friends were given an opportunity to visit the various projects and displays exhibited by clubmembers. Clubmembers that won first prizes on their projects were given an opportunity to discuss their projects with the group and give demonstrations where necessary. It has been through these type programs that the parents and clubmembers have realized the importance of working together in making a successful showing of projects and records. All of the four-H clubs were given an opportunity to give a summary of their activities for the year and outstanding accomplishments. Prizes were awarded by the president of the 4-H council and the president of the 4-H leader group. The program also consisted of songs, special reports from clubmembers that attended activities out of the county. Phyllis Boulden and Mary Cooke, State 4-H officers were presented to the group.

Rural Life Sunday Program:

Approximately two hundred 4-H members, leaders, parents and friends witnessed an interesting Rural Life Sunday Program at Bethel Baptist Church, Sassafras, Virginia, Sunday May 25, 1958. The Reverend William Russell Jones, Pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church centered his sermon around the Second "H" Heart and used as his topic, "Loving One Another". Four-H Members participated in the choir, assisted in the pulpit and as ushers. Four-H members conducted the following activities on the program, Responsive Reading, Scripture, Moments of Meditation, Allegiance to the Flag, Four-H Pledge and the Call to Worship. Catherine Boulden and Phyllis Boulden reported on the 1957 Wild Life Conference and the 1957 Four-H Short Course, respectively. Junior 4-H leaders were presented by Dorothy Walker and Four-H delegates to the 1958 Short Course and Adult Leaders were presented by Miss. Leola Hill, Assistant Secretary of the Adult 4-H Leader Group. A special collection was taken to help defray the expense of delegates to the 1958 short course. John Norton and Miss Leola Hill were appointed by the 4-H adult leader group to take charge of delegates. Thomas Howard, 4-H leader was put in charge of transportation for delegates. Four-H members and leaders wore special clothing for the Rural Life Sunday Services. The colors of green and white were used to make up the church decorations that were displayed by 4-H members.

Four-H Tractor Clinic:

Four Junior 4-H Leaders from Gloucester County attended the Annual 4-H Tractor Clinic at Virginia State College, Petersburg, Virginia, February 13-14. Leaders were Thomas Lomax Jr, Zanoni, Virginia; Leon Grandison, Roanoke, Virginia; Morris Clayborne and Ivy Clayborne, Pinero, Virginia. These Junior Leaders and the local farm agent received instructions in tractor maintenance operations. The tractor maintenance course involved instructions in the following: Air cleaners, carburetors, lubricants, ignition system, tractor safety, cooling systems, housing farm equipment and how to organize and conduct a 4-H tractor maintenance school in the county. Instructors included representatives from the American Oil Company, Virginia Agricultural Extension Service; local tractor dealers and Virginia State College, Petersburg, Virginia. The clinic was sponsored by the American Oil Company, New York City, New York.

Four-H Sweet Potato Show and Sale:

Two 4-H boys from Gloucester County participated in the Annual Upper-tidewater Sweet Potato Show and Sale. The show and sale was held in King William County, Wednesday, December 11, 1957. Each of the 4-H participants was required to exhibit three bushels of selected sweet potatoes from his 1957 project. Potatoes exhibited were judged by A. Vernon Watts, Associate Extension Horticulturist, Virginia Agricultural Truck Experiment Station, Norfolk, Virginia. This sweet potato show is the out come of one of the district activities sponsored by local farm agents employed in the upper tidewater section of Virginia. This particular district consist of seven counties, Caroline, King and Queen, Charles City and New Kent, Essex, Richmond, King William and Gloucester. The major objectives of the sweet potato show are: (1) To demonstrate proper methods of producing high quality sweet potatoes; (2) To teach 4-H members how to grade and show sweet potatoes for market, and (3) To teach 4-H members the importance of good management

State 4-H Short Course:

Fifteen 4-H delegates and two 4-H leaders attended the Annual State 4-H Short Course at Virginia State College, Petersburg, Virginia, June 16-20. Delegates that attended the short course were selected on the basis of project work conducted and participation in 4-H club activities. The following members attended the short course, Faecia Catlett, Hayes; Patricia Washington, Gassafra; Marlene Green, Ordinary; Lenora Shackelford, Shacksford; Mary Cooke, Bellamy; Thomas Lomax, Zanoni; Ethel Jones; Owen Boyd, Dorothy Walker, Frederick Carter and Garland Booth, Gloucester; Earlene Boulden, Hayes; Phyllis Boulden, Wan; Leon Grandison, Roanes; Earl Lewis, Hayes; and John Norton and Mrs. Della Driver, Ware Neck, Virginia were the adult 4-H leaders that attended.

Delegates that attended from Gloucester County were enrolled in the following classes, Music Appreciation, Recreation, Home Grounds Beautification, Safety, Rural Arts, Home Gardening, Records and Record Keeping, Citizenship, Good Grooming and Junior Leadership. All delegates took and active part in class discussions, demonstrations, talent program, and served on various committees.

Phyllis Boulden was elected president and Mary Cooke was elected secretary of the State 4-H Short Course. These 4-H members were elected as 4-H officers as the result of participating in many of the short course activities and displaying their leadership ability during the week that they were attending the short course.

Wild Life Conference:

Three 4-H members and one 4-H leader attended the Annual Wild Life Conference at Virginia State College, Petersburg, Virginia, August 5, 6, 7. Delegates were, Shelton Bouldin, Gloucester; Delano Evans, Ware Neck; and Ivy Clayborne, Pinero. R. D. Lemon, Gloucester, Virginia, adult 4-H leader, also attended the conference along with the 4-H delegates. Delegates received information on soil conservation practices, tree identification and conservation, and the recognition of helpful animals and birds. A portion of the expense of the delegates was donated by the Federal Cartridge Company, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Delegates that attended the conference were selected on the basis of project completions, accomplishments in 4-H work and participation in 4-H activities.

Observance of National 4-H Week:

National 4-H Week, March 1-8, was observed by the three organized 4-H clubs, the 4-H leader group and parents as well as friends in the county. The observance was planned by 4-H members, 4-H leaders and parents. Four bulletin boards were decorated at the Thomas C. Walker School, Roanes, Virginia by clubmembers and leaders and one educational display was posted in the window of the Gloucester Men's Shop, located at Gloucester Courthouse. The Junior Leadership Club decorated the Men's Shop Window. A special 4-H enrollment campaign was sponsored by the three organized 4-H clubs during the week. Clubmembers and leaders wore 4-H emblems, buttons and jackets. A special 4-H program was held in the school by clubs. One hundred and thirty-four boys and girls enrolled during the week. The campaign closed with a special program.

Project Work:

Four-H members are enrolled in projects selected from the 4-H Project Manual published by Virginia Agricultural Extension Service. Prospective 4-H members are issued 4-H enrollment cards in December. Each clubmember is briefed on the approved projects for Virginia 4-H members. Clubmembers are informed to select only projects of their respective interest, need and ability to meet the necessary requirements. Clubmembers between the ages of 10 and 12 are encouraged to take only one project, older members with experience, interest and ability to do a good job are urged to take additional projects where applicable. Adult 4-H leaders are trained to give project instructions where needed. Leaders are also prepared to help clubmembers with the selection of projects and to give instructions at times other than during regular club meetings. All clubmembers are encouraged to associate themselves with one of the organized clubs in the county and take a part in activities conducted by the various clubs. Parents are urged to furnish the necessary materials for clubmembers to conduct successful projects. Local leaders assist the local agent in guiding, teaching and supervising 4-H projects.

Local leaders are provided with reading materials similar to that issued to clubmembers on their projects to help keep adequate information concerning 4-H members projects and requirements available. During the regular monthly meetings, leaders have an opportunity to report problems and conditions existing among 4-H members in their respective communities. Leaders are urged to visit 4-H members often as necessary and assist clubmembers with their project record books as soon as the project is completed.

During 1958, a total of 134 members enrolled in 4-H work, fifty-one boys and eighty-three girls. The 134 members conducted 156 projects and completed 105. Forty boys completed and 62 girls completed, making a total of 102 members completing. Projects conducted included corn, soybeans, sweet potatoes, vegetable gardens, forestry, poultry, tractor maintenance, electricity, home grounds beautification, canning, clothing, home furnishings, room improvement, junior leadership and safety. All of the seven members enrolled in corn projects completed with a total net receipts of \$487.50. Twelve acres of soybeans were involved in five 4-H projects with a total net earning of \$235.00. The six acres of sweet potatoes conducted by ten boys have been estimated at a gross receipt of \$1950.00. The total receipts from the home garden projects was \$1465.00. Two 4-H members thinned four acres of timberland and two seeded 3500 pine seedlings. Two members conducted poultry projects with a total of 375 birds, net receipts \$190.00. Five members enrolled and completed the tractor maintenance project. The county winner entered the state 4-H tractor operators contest and won third place. Two boys enrolled and completed farm and home electric projects with a total of 12 articles completed at a total savings \$145.00. Seven members enrolled in canning projects, four completed with a total of 275 quarts of fruits and vegetables canned at a total saving of \$125.00. Forty-four members enrolled in clothing and 21 completed making a total of 78 useful articles for the home and 51 garments at a total saving of \$978.00. Nine of the fourteen members enrolled in home furnishings and room improvement completed with a total of nine rooms involved and 37 articles made at a total saving of \$580.00 for furnishings, making pictures, curtains, painting rooms and renovating. Fourteen of the 23 members enrolled in junior leadership completed, four completed safety projects.

FOUR-H CLUB WORK

Organization:

Gloucester County 4-H organizations are set up according to the recommended standards of the Extension Service. Boys and girls are enrolled in 4-H work between the ages of 10 and 21. Projects conducted by 4-H members are selected from the authorized 4-H project manual. Clubmembers are generally enrolled during the month of December of each year. Officers elected are: president, vice-president, secretary, assistant secretary, treasurer, reporter, song leader and assistant song leaders. Four-H club sponsor leaders are teachers of the respective grades that are enrolled in club work and the out of school clubs select their sponsor leaders. Four-H project leaders are selected by the 4-H clubmembers from members enrolled in the 4-H adult leadership club. Meetings are held twice monthly in school during the regular school term. During the summer months, leaders meet with the various groups in their respective communities. Four-H members that are out of school or in high school meet monthly with the Junior 4-H leader club which meets in the local farm agent's office or in various homes on the first Saturday in each month. The Junior Leaders Club meets more often when ever it is necessary.

The County Junior 4-H Council is an organization that is made up of all the officers from the various organized 4-H clubs. This organization meets two or three times annually to make plans for the county 4-H clubs. The purpose of this organization is to help coordinate the county 4-H program and follow through with certain activities that are planned countywide. County council meetings are also held to train 4-H officers and acquaint them with their duties. After the county council sets up the major 4-H club objectives for the year, all of the county 4-H clubs work toward these major objectives. Aside from the objectives set by the county council, each club can also have other goals and objectives for the year.

The Gloucester County 4-H leader group is an organization of adult members that is organized to assist 4-H members and 4-H clubs with their projects, activities and annual goals. This organization is organized similar to the 4-H clubs with the title of the various officers being the same. These adult leaders meet monthly to receive special instructions and training in 4-H work. The adult leader group also assist the 4-H groups in planning their activities for the year. Most of the members of the adult leader group are project leaders, the others are sponsor leaders and assistant club leaders. This group has twenty-five members and they are voluntary workers. In the monthly meetings leaders are trained to give demonstrations, how to check 4-H members records, how to conduct 4-H meetings and the type of games, songs and social functions to carry on at 4-H club meetings. The 4-H leader group has been responsible for raising all of the monies to send delegates to the 4-H short course and other special meetings. This year the 4-H adult leader group sent five representatives to the District 4-H Leader Training Meeting that was held in King and Queen County, February 18, 1958. Instructors were; Miss. Dorothy Gentry and W. A. Turner, Associate State 4-H Club Agents, Virginia Agricultural Extension Service, Blacksburg, Virginia

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT WORK

Community Improvement work is a project designed to help raise the standards of all people living within a specified community selected by the County Agricultural Board. The community improvement is sponsored by the State Agricultural Advisory Board in cooperation with the county agricultural advisory board. The community improvement project is one organized for the purpose of cooperating with the State Extension Service in improving agriculture and the level of living among farmers in Virginia. The objectives of the Community Improvement Program are: (1) To strengthen home demonstration work, 4-H work, YBM program and community clubs; (2) To teach better farm management and farming practices; (3) To improve family living and home surroundings; (4) To create active community leadership; and (5) To develop better communities by strengthening the economic, educational and social activities.

Zion Hill Community consisting of 44 families was selected by the county advisory board to participate in the state community improvement program. As a media of discussing objectives and outlining the program to the families in the community a community club was organized. Meetings are held monthly and various phases of the program are discussed. As the result of this community project improvements are being noticed as we frequently travel through this section of the county. As a means of keeping farm families aware of their duties as members of the community improvement project a check sheet is issued to each family annually in order for them to check their own progress. Several leaders have been trained to work with families that desire their assistance in filling out the check sheet.

As the result of careful planning Zion Hill Community has made some improvements. One of the major community projects is to get homes painted. This year six homes have been painted or resided, two homes have been renovated, four homes have been painted on the inside, three homes have been electrified, twenty seven families participated in the community clean-up campaign, six farmers seeded winter cover crops, one farmer established a permanent pasture and twenty farmers seeded some type of home garden for the family food supply. A partial setting of shrubbery was made at the Zion Hill Baptist Church at a total cost of \$54.00. Seven of the eleven 4-H members enrolled in 4-H work completed their projects for 1958. The community club distributed eight baskets of food to the under privileged last Christmas. As one of the final results of the efforts put forth in the community toward accomplishing a few of the objectives outlined by the State Agricultural Advisory Board in 1957, the community received a \$10.00 award. The club has planned to use this money to help complete the church landscaping project. We can feel that the community interest is increasing annually as the result of keeping community projects before them at all times to help keep them aware of their place in the community program.

ASC AND SCS COOPERATING

The agronomy committee along with the assistance of the local farm agent has constantly assisted these agencies with their farm and land improvement programs. Representatives of these agencies have been invited into our farm group meetings to explain certain practices for improved land uses.

Forestry demonstrations established included the following management practices, thinning, killing hardwoods, setting pine seedlings and timberland improvement practices. The demonstrations established are in various sections of the county. One forestry plot is being developed to assist 4-H members in estimating and thinning timberlands.

This year the forestry committee and the local farm agent assisted John Driver, Ark, Virginia in setting 8,000 pine seedlings on seven and one-half acres. The forestry committee is not promoting a plant more trees program. A. W. Ashley, Cappahosic, Virginia has been appointed chairman of the forestry committee by the county agricultural advisory board.

This year the local farm agent spent seventeen days with farmers assisting them with forest tree plantings, timber-stand improvement, estimating and appraisal of timber lands, fire prevention and controls, and marketing forest products. The local agent worked with forty-two different farmers in giving assistance with forestry management practices. Two field meetings were held at the demonstrations that are located in the various communities with a total attendance of seventy two farmers.

RUNNING WATER

Home improvement has been one of the major items that farmers are beginning to consider in their farming program. Modern facilities are becoming more of a necessity to farm people. Time saving devices are getting more consideration in planning the family farm and home program. The home improvement committee has been working on various home improvement demonstrations and projects that will help to encourage more home makers to install modern conveniences. Annually the committee sponsors a home improvement tour to give the housewives an opportunity to discuss new projects and plans for home improvement. We have always considered the running water system the central point of attraction to get home owners started with their improvement projects. Running water systems installed in the home and on the farm shows definite signs of progress and time saving for every member of the family.

Realizing the importance of this particular item in the home and on the farm; the professional workers and the Extension workers in Gloucester County met in the Virginia Electric and Power Company Building, Thursday, July 24, 1958 to make plans for conducting a program that will interest more farmers in making their farms and homes a better place to live by installing running water systems. At this meeting representatives were present from the following agencies and business establishments, Virginia Electric and power company, Health Department, Vocational Agriculture and Home Economic Departments, Plumbing Contractors and the Extension Service. At this particular meeting VEPCO representatives offered their services to make a survey of the number of farmers with running water systems. After the survey has been completed, plans will be made to help interest farmers without running water systems. At present the survey is being made and nothing definite has been planned to follow up the survey until the next meeting in 1959.

LANDSCAPING (Cont'd)

As the result of conducting these demonstrations, more home owners are requesting the assistance of the local farm agent to help select shrubs and plan their home grounds. This year the local farm agent assisted in establishing one landscaping demonstration. This demonstration was planned and carried out on a new home. Dr. R. S. Turner, Gloucester, Virginia saved approximately \$250.00 on his landscaping project by using the assistance of the garden committee and the local farm agent. Plans for the landscaping demonstration were outlined by Dr. W. L. Watson and the local farm agent supervised the planting. More than 150 home makers and garden lovers have witnessed this particular demonstration this year. The local agent also gives assistance to the following demonstrations which were established during the past seven years; John Driver, Ark, Virginia; Mrs. Levi Clayton, White Marsh, Virginia; Mrs. Lesper Bowden, Ark, Virginia and Mrs. Jacqueline Foster, Wicomico, Virginia. Plans for all of these homes were drawn by Dr. W. L. Watson, Virginia State College, Petersburg, Virginia. These demonstrations have helped to prove to a large percentage of our home owners that a plan is necessary when a landscaping project is started. Many of the home owners start landscaping projects and get disgusted at them over a period of years because they did not plant their shrubs, trees and flowers with any future in mind and the results have been discouraging. Two tours were held this year that involved all of the five landscaping demonstrations with approximately 85 homemakers attending. As we travel through the county we can see some improvements on many of the yards that otherwise have not been receiving any attention in the past.

As the result of the goals set by the garden committee and the Zion Hill community improvement club another community church is well underway in getting the grounds landscaped. The first shrubs were purchased by the community club at a cost of \$54.00. The local agent conducted a setting demonstration on the church grounds April 25, 1958. Labor and other necessary planting materials were furnished by farmers and community workers. Twelve persons witnessed the setting demonstration. The community club which is organized in the community which has been elected the demonstration community for Gloucester County, has set as its goal to complete the church plantings during 1958. As the result of starting this church landscaping project two home owners have started purchasing shrubs for their landscaping project, the local agent has also given assistance in helping to plan their landscapes. A total of sixty-two home owners have received some type of landscaping assistance during the year.

FORESTRY

Three educational forestry demonstrations have been established in Gloucester County to help promote the use of better forestry management practices. These demonstrations were established by F. W. Patton, Associate Extension Forester, Virginia Agricultural Extension Service, Blacksburg, Virginia along with the planning of the forestry committee. The assistance that the local farm and committee received from Patton helped to get more farmers interested in conserving their timberlands.

The home garden committee has included many important phases of home garden production in the demonstrations and other educational activities that involved the home gardens and home orchards. As the result of promoting these various projects for the benefit of improving the conditions of home orchards and gardens in Gloucester County, First of all the demonstrators and contestants have received helpful information that will encourage them to keep on trying to produce enough fruits and vegetables for home use as well as commercial purposes; Secondly, indirectly the influence of the demonstrators and cooperators will eventually spread and more farmers will become interested in the project, and Thirdly, when demonstrations and contest are conducted farmers generally forget about the laborous side of the project which in return helps to develop a different attitude toward growing their own fruits and vegetables for home use.

As the result of the home garden improvement contest sponsored by the garden committee contestants showed great enthusiasm. Contestants have served well as responsible people in getting others interested in better home garden practices as well as how to make exhibits for the county fair. According to the final scoring, Mrs. Levi Clayton, White Marsh, Virginia won first place in the contest with an average of 99 points on first and second scores and including the points received by winning first prize on her garden display of eight or more vegetables at the county fair; Herbert Bates, Ark, Virginia and Archie Ashley, Cappahosic, Virginia were second and third place winners respectively with 77 and 95 points. The committee is planning another interesting program for 1959 with hopes of increasing more interest and encouraging more families to produce their own home fruit and vegetable supplies.

LANDSCAPING

The best welcome sign that home owners can place on the home grounds is one that is located among the shrubs and flowers that helps to beautify the exterior portion of the home. Shrubbery and flowers properly placed and designed serves the purpose of a warm welcome into any home. Since more people have an opportunity to evaluate the outside of our homes more than the inside, it becomes necessary for us to be more mindful of our home and its surroundings. Many of our ideas and attitudes toward living are portrayed in the manner in which we landscape our homegrounds. Beautiful living is just as important to our community appreciation as our neighbors attitude can be to our well being. Therefore, our homes deserve more outside attention in order to help build better attention on the inside. As our homes invite people to come and visit, comments will be spared only to the extent that they might be insulting, but the beauty that surrounds us can be made the center of attraction for any good home maker that believes in good healthy wholesome living in the out door area of the home.

In previous years, four home landscape demonstrations have been established in Gloucester County. These demonstrations were established for the purpose of helping to encourage more home owners to become conscious of their home and its surroundings. Dr. W. L. Watson, Horticulturist, Virginia State College, Petersburg, Virginia has assisted the local farm agent establishing these demonstrations.

In evaluating the county home garden tour, Pompey favored the idea of promoting the contest between home gardeners. This method could be one to encourage more farmers to participate and grow more of the type fruits and vegetables that they are now buying at the local grocery stores. Pompey informed the group of seventy-five farmers that witnessed the tour that he had seen some of the best home gardens in Gloucester County that he had visited this year. He valued each of the home gardens that was judged between \$150.00 and \$550.00, which is a tremendous saving for any family food budget. Two 4-H members garden projects were also included in the home garden tour, Delano, Evans, Ware Neck, Virginia and Herman Carter, Ware Neck, Virginia. Cooperators that joined the tour and accepted the challenge also to have their gardens judged in the contest were, Lewis, Washington, Finero, Virginia; Miss. Eloise Walker, Gloucester, Virginia and Prophet Brown, Wan, Virginia. The home garden tour ended with refreshments being served at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. A. Gordon, Ark, Virginia. Contestants were given an opportunity to discuss their projects and ways and means of improving them for future contest.

Archie Ashley, Cappahosic, Virginia and W. Otis Brooks, Woods K Roads, Virginia were selected by the home garden committee to conduct year-round home gardens that involved ten or more fruits and vegetables. Ashley reported that his demonstration gave him an opportunity to increase his knowledge about the home garden project as well as improved his ability to keep records for his own personal use, aside from the net return of \$650.00 received as the result of conducting the project. Brooks reported a saving of \$520.00 from his home garden demonstration. Both demonstrators were given an opportunity to increase their knowledge and skills in home gardening. These demonstrators stated that they would be interested in conducting similar projects for next year. Since they do like home gardening it gives them an opportunity to put their best efforts into practice as well as promote good will and better interest to others that are not doing their best by growing sufficient fruits and vegetables for the increased net income for their family budgets.

As the result of studying the small home orchard situation in the county the garden committee found none to be considered profitable and well managed for the best returns. For the past few years the committee has been working on the home orchard project. At present, five persons have become interested in the home orchard project, Mrs. L. J. Morris, Cappahosic, Virginia; Edmond Morris, Ark, Virginia; Dr. R. S. Turner, Gloucester, Virginia; G. N. Carter, Gloucester, Virginia and Miss. Eloise Walker, Gloucester, Virginia

Home orchard demonstrations were conducted by Mrs. L. J. Morris and Edmond Morris. The demonstrators reported that they received increased production from their fruit trees by following the V. P. I. spray schedule. The local farm agent has used Edmond Morris' demonstration for the past four years to conduct pruning and spraying method demonstrations. Twenty persons witnessed a pruning and spraying demonstration in Morris' home orchard, March 5, 1958. The local farm agent gave practical information on proper pruning and spraying methods and how to mix spray chemicals for spraying fruit trees. Materials and equipment used for the demonstration were donated by County City Supply, Gloucester, Virginia.

HORTICULTURE (Cont'd)

Realizing the importance of trying to develop interest and get these various demonstrations established, the home garden committee made plans to promote a countywide home garden meeting and get out the bulk of the interested farmers. This meeting was planned especially to emphasize the importance of home gardens and orchards and to get volunteers to participate in the home garden contest. The committee also planned that the home garden demonstrators be selected, because this project would require individuals that would be willing to keep records and also persons who would have desirable locations for good home garden demonstrations. The countywide meeting was called March 4, 1958. J. S. Higginbotham, Horticulturist, Hampton, Virginia was the principle speaker. Higginbotham discussed helpful ways by which interested home gardeners could improve their garden practices. The discussion was centered around the interest of the people; (1) Spring and fall gardens; (2) Varieties of fruits and vegetables to plant; (3) Cultural and fertilization practices for best results and increased yields; (4) Insect pest, diseases and their controls; (5) Spraying and pruning home orchards, and (6) Harvesting and curing fruits and vegetables.

This particular meeting stirred up the interest of seventy-five home gardeners. Ten farmers volunteered to participate in the better home garden contest. Higginbotham assisted the committee with the requirements and the score sheet for contestants. All contestants were required to have at least ten fruits and vegetables in production in their gardens during the scoring periods in the spring and fall. In order to complete the requirements, each contestant was informed that a home garden display of eight or more fruits and vegetables were to be exhibited at the annual fall county fair. Also as a means of keeping the farmers interested, door prizes were donated by local business establishments. Persons that volunteered to participate in the home garden contest were; Irving Driver, Ark, Virginia; Herbert Yates, Ark, Virginia; Mrs. Benie Cordon, Ark, Virginia; Willie B. Morris Cappahosie, Virginia; Mrs. Levi Clayton, White Marsh, Virginia, Rev. John H. Williams, Ware Neck, Virginia; George Fox, Ordinary, Virginia; John Norton, Ware Neck, Virginia; Luther Shorter, Ark, Virginia and Thomas W. Howard, Ark, Virginia. Archie Ashley, Cappahosie, Virginia and Rev. W. Otis Brooks, Woods X Roads, Virginia were selected to conduct the home garden demonstrations. Brooks and Ashley had desirable locations for the demonstrations. Both demonstration plots selected were near a main highway where people could observe them all during the growing seasons. The local agent assisted with soil test and seed selections. Fruits and vegetables were sprayed with Malathion insecticides. The three home garden tours that were conducted by the garden committee influenced a total attendance of 94 persons.

J. A. Pompey, Horticulturist, Virginia State College, Petersburg, Virginia assisted the local farm agent with the scoring of the home gardens entered in the contest. All of the gardens were judged on the following basis; (1) Care and skill in gardening, a-Condition of plants, b-Seed control, c-Insect control, and d-Arrangement of plants;(2) Variety of plants in the garden; (3) Garden location in relationship to the home; (4) Landscape of home grounds, and (5) Fertilization, cultural and preservation practices.

HORTICULTURE

The products produced in home gardens and orchards constitute the most important items that make up the daily family diet; therefore, these fresh fruits and vegetables are still the essentials that are required to be used daily. Yet, for no good reason at all, we are confronted with the problem of farmers not producing enough fruits and vegetables to supply the family needs, daily, weekly or annually. The number of farmers that are producing year-round gardens are reducing annually. Farmers that are producing plenty of fruits and vegetables are taking a tremendous loss annually, because of poor marketing facilities for perishable products, limited knowledge of grading produce to receive top market prices, inadequate facilities for controlling insects and diseases of fruits and vegetables. Many farmers are still laboring with the idea that they can buy fruits and vegetables cheaper than they can produce them on their own farms. This we know to be the lack of interest of housewives and their abilities to can and preserve the overflow of fruits and vegetables that farmers produce. On the other hand many farmers think that it is the housewives job to take of the home garden and spray the home orchard. With these many problems at hand there is no definite reason to believe that there is a possible chance for the back yard home garden and orchard to be restored to its right place and that is to the home grounds where more interest should be taken by the entire farm family. If the prices of food goes up and farmers are not making any more net income annually, this stands the reason why each year farmers are falling farther behind with the family budget. Fruits and vegetables produced economically at home, stored, frozen and preserved properly will help balance not only the family diet but the family budget. Today approximately fifty percent of the family income is spent for foods; therefore it becomes essential for any average family to increase their income the equivalent of fifty percent or produce their own fruits and vegetables according to the necessary requirements for the family.

The home garden committee has made several surveys of the home garden situation in the county and it has been revealed that approximately fifteen to twenty percent of the farm families are producing family size gardens, only ten percent have gardens of some type and the other seventy percent are buying a greater portion of their fruits and vegetables from the stores. Aside from these problems, improper storage facilities, inadequate facilities for controlling insect pest and diseases of fruits and vegetables add to the increased loss of fruits and vegetables annually. Farmers that are operating roadside markets can not always demand the top prices for their produce when diseases and injury help to lower the quality of products that they are able to produce.

The home garden committee set up the following objectives after making surveys and witnessing these various problems which have just been mentioned, to help improve the conditions and encourage more farmers to produce their own fruits and vegetables as well as increase interest in the project that can be made profitable by using good judgment and practicing good sound home garden management.

1. Conduct two home garden demonstrations
2. Conduct one home orchard demonstration
3. Conduct a home garden contest with ten farmers.

LIVESTOCK (Cont'd)

For the past two years the local agent has assisted the demonstrators in conducting their projects. We have not been able to get specialist assistance but the interest that the demonstrators have developed helps to carry out the basic purpose of the demonstrations in every sense of the word. We feel that the attitudes which the demonstrators have developed have done much to improve the influence of the Extension Program in the county. As we make visits to these demonstrations periodically, farmers are continuously asking questions concerning poultry production. Demonstrators have continued to keep daily egg records and buyers have witnessed better grades of eggs from these particular farmers. Farmers that have been engaged in the poultry projects are not as fearful as they were before in getting down to business in their poultry houses as well as with buyers that consult they about producing eggs for market. With the interest that these farmers have, we are still hoping that it will be possible to get back to working with them again soon on a more productive basis. The poultry flocks in Gloucester are still too small for farmers to make any reasonable profit from poultry alone. As the result of conducting these contests among demonstrators, men have become more interested in the home poultry projects. Beforehand many of the men thought that it was the housewives job to look after the poultry flocks, but now since they have found out that the poultry business can be made applicable to the every day type of living and still become a growing enterprise within the range of the family budget. "Hucksters" are still buying the larger portion of the eggs that the farmers are producing in Gloucester County, but farmers are in a better position to demand more for their eggs per dozen because they are doing their own grading and the buyers no longer have to buy eggs in bulk and give the cheaper prices because the eggs have not been properly graded. These educational demonstrations have helped to bring more capital into the hands of farmers because of the increased knowledge that they have witnessed as the result of the projects which they have conducted.

As the result of conducting these poultry projects more farmers are purchasing their chicks locally, which is a saving to the farmer and a better business for local hatcheries. The local agent assisted twelve farmers this year with the purchase of layers and fourteen with the purchase of broiler and fryer strains. Aside from the demonstrators numerous other farmers were assisted with feeding methods, controlling external and internal parasites of poultry including turkeys. This year the local agent assisted thirty-four farmers and demonstrators in preparing poultry and eggs for market and twenty eight with marketing information that will be used in developing a sound poultry enterprise.

The livestock committee has been well pleased with the results received from participants in the county livestock program for 1958. The local agent has used every available source of information possible to keep livestock producers informed about prices, feeding methods, disease control methods marketing facilities and efficient work methods. Eighty-seven farmers adopted recommended practices with swine and a total of 126 farmers were assisted with production, management and marketing. As the result of using improved practices, farmers are receiving increased benefits from their livestock projects. We feel that with increased interest in the future, the livestock program in Gloucester County will take a steady move toward better grades of livestock and increased returns.

LIVESTOCK (Cont'd)

The farm poultry flock improvement projects sponsored by the livestock committee has place great emphasis on production of poultry for home and commercial purposes. The poultry flock improvement contest has been an educational means of helping poultry producers to realize the importance of following good management practices in developing a prosperous poultry business. The livestock committee studied the poultry situation in the county and discovered the only possible problem that kept the poultry business in the red with most farmers was poor management practices. As a follow up of the situation, the livestock committee organized the various ideas that would give some type of relief to most of the farmers and came up with the farm poultry flock improvement contest. This contest was opened to every farm family in the county that had a poultry consisting of fifty or more layers. The idea was to get an educational project started that would include as many interested farmers as possible to participate. Realizing that poultry meats and eggs ranked well into the top food consumption bracket among farmers the livestock committee thought it wise to give this matter serious attention, because the poultry projects were considered quite vital to many homes and especially the housewives who most and generally attended the poultry flocks.

The poultry flock improvement contest had its beginning in Gloucester County in 1954. A. Lawrence Dean, Associate Extension Poultry Husbandman, Virginia Agricultural Extension Service, assisted the local farm agent in setting up 18 demonstrations. Dean and the local agent worked with the poultry improvement contest until his retirement in 1956. Dean's scoring system was one that involved the following items; Condition of poultry flock, housing facilities, condition of equipment and feeding methods. Each time that the demonstrators were scored they were reminded of the necessary things that they had to do to improve their scores as well as practice better poultry management. From this method of keeping farmers informed of their duties and checking their progress improved the poultry situation in Gloucester County more than 100 percent. Farmers looked forward to the time when their projects would be scored. Farmers not only were given an opportunity to compete their wits with the neighbors, but they were given an opportunity to ask questions about their faults and how they could improve conditions.

Dean worked very cooperatively with the local farm agent and the livestock committee on the poultry improvement contest. Demonstrators were interested in learning to do the job well. On the farm discussions helped to improve conditions more than it would have otherwise. Farmers were given information on culling poultry flocks, selecting hatcheries, keeping egg records, producing good layers, sorting eggs, packing eggs, storing and exhibiting eggs for the market and fairs. Ten of the demonstrators that were participating in the contest improved their scores more than twenty five points during the two year period that Dean worked with the group. A. W. Lemon, Bassafra, Virginia increased his first score of 69 points to 98 points during this same period. At the beginning of the contest Lemon had 25 layers and at the present he has increased his laying flock to 500 birds. Demonstrators had approximately 1250 birds at the beginning of the contest and at the present time these same demonstrators have more than 2800 birds. The idea of getting farmers to keep records helped them to understand the importance of knowing the cost of feed in comparison to the number of eggs the hens are producing weekly, monthly and annually.

LIVESTOCK (Cont'd)

Thomas Howard, Ark, Virginia; and Thomas Lomax, Zanoni, Virginia. Lomax and Howard purchased purebred Duroc Boars and the others purchased Spotted Poland China Sows.

It was agreed by the farmers that purchased these purebred sows that they would try their best to place all of the pigs that these sows produced in various sections of the county. Recently these farmers have reported that they place approximately 152 pigs through the county as the result of the livestock program outlined by the committee. During 1957, four purebred sows were purchased through the livestock committee and fifty-one pigs were placed through the county. This year Robert Morris, Cappahosic, Virginia and Thomas Lomax, Zanoni, Virginia purchased purebred sows, Morris purchased a Berkshire and Lomax purchased a Lorkshire. Pigs from these animals will be available during the early part of 1959. The swine program has not gone so well during 1958, due to the low cost of market hogs, but the livestock committee expects to get the program back into full operation during 1959. However, the number of pigs that the livestock committee has distributed around the county has helped to improve the type of grade animals that farmers are producing and as time goes on the committee is hoping to get a good grade animal on every farm that has hogs in the county. The purebred animal program is well underway and more farmers are becoming interested in the program. Each year we have been carrying many of our farmers to the purebred hog shows and sales and they have become very much encouraged to go back home and do a better job of growing the type animals that they can best afford. Each year we are moving closer to a type swine program that will encourage more farmers to become interested in purebred animals and make crosses for the feeder pig groups.

Thomas Lomax, Zanoni, Virginia conducted the swine feeding demonstration planned by the livestock committee. Lomax established a permanent ladino clover orchard grass pasture in the fall of 1957 and this pasture has been included in tours conducted by the agronomy committee and the livestock committee. Lomax reports that his feed cost has been reduced more than 65 percent as the result of establishing this pasture for his hogs. A supplementary pasture of rape and soybeans was used to reduce the amount of grazing on the clover during the summer. One field meeting was held at this particular demonstration with a total of eighteen farmers present. Lomax discussed his livestock program with the group and expressed his firm belief that permanent pastures for hogs can be the answer to the feed reduction cost.

George Gregory, Gum Fork, Virginia conducted the swine demonstration that involved a sanitation program, hog pasture and purebred hogs. The local agent assisted Gregory in setting up his sanitation program. Hog houses were built, feeding troughs were built for pigs and self feeders for larger animals. One acre of ladino clover was seeded and rape was seeded as a supplementary summer pasture. Novac vaccine was used to inoculate the pigs at six week old. Lase salt was used and kept before the animals at all times. Sodium Fluride was used for the control of worms. As the result of good management practices, proper sanitation methods and good grade and purebred animals, Gregory has been encouraged to increase the size of his hog pasture and purchase another sow for breeding purposes and produce two litters of pigs annually during 1959.

LIVESTOCK (Cont'd)

A high percentage of the poultry and hogs produced actually can not meet market requirements for good grade products.

The livestock committee appointed by the county agricultural advisory has compiled the following information concerning the various problems that are confronting livestock producers in Gloucester County. Poultry producers are purchasing inferior grades of chicks. A very large percentage of the farmers are falling short of good management practices which is necessary to help make the poultry industry profitable. Swine producers are also practicing methods that are well out dated in the livestock program today for best results. There are still farmers that are not completely sold on the idea of the importance of purchasing purebred and good grade animals for increased sales, better quality hogs and reduced cost of production. Improved management practices are definitely needed on practically farms where hogs are produced. Milch cows have been on a steady decline for the past five years and farmers that are maintaining cows are still number among the low grade types that are far inferior to the registered type animals. Poor management is also another factor that has caused many farmers to sell their cows, not realizing the importance of good milch cows in keeping the family supplied with butter and milk as well as supplying the childrens need for milk in their daily diets. With the decline of farm animals, especially cows, the total requirements in cost of fertilizer materials for farm lands are increasing annually. Barnyard manures have helped reduce the cost of fertilizer requirement over the past years, but with the decline of the number of farm animals maintained, the cost of fertilizers are becoming a big factor in reducing the net farm income annually.

As a means of designing a program to help improve the livestock conditions in the county, the livestock committee agreed to setup the following goals for 1958: (1) Get two farmers to purchase purebred hogs; (2) Promote a swine breeding program in the county; (3) Conduct one feeding demonstration with hogs; (4) Conduct one demonstration with hogs that will include proper sanitation methods, hog pastures and purebred animals; (5) Continue the farm flock improvement contest; (6) Get at least five farmers to increase their laying flocks; and (7) Promote a program to encourage farmers to maintain more cows on their farms for home and commercial purposes. The committee found out that one major difficulty remained as a discouraging problem to farmers was the cost of feeds that livestock required for maintenance. This being one of the major problems, the committee thought it best to give this particular item first consideration, because the feeding problem was one that could destroy the whole livestock business in the county if something wasn't done about the conditions.

At this point we would like to say that last year was not the first time that the livestock committee had an occasion to realize the importance of developing a good swine production program in the county. On December 13, 1955, the local farm and the chairman of the livestock committee, A. W. Lemon, Sassafras, Virginia arranged for the following farmers to purchase purebred hogs from the McClenny Farms, Wakefield, Virginia. The farmers that purchased these purebred animals were: George Gregory, Gum Fork, Virginia; Jessie Cooke, Sassafras, Virginia; Albert W. Grandison, Roanes, Virginia and Francis Dudley, Bellamy, Virginia.

LIVESTOCK

Farmers in Gloucester County are engaged mostly in raising poultry, hogs, cattle and sheep. The census report for 1950 show that 289 farms are producing 75,995 annually for commercial purposes, and 181 farms reported 2,554 hogs and pigs were sold. Sixty-two farms reported 4,108 turkeys raised in 1950. From the production standpoint practically every farm in the county is maintaining fifty or more layers for home use and general purposes.

Livestock production is another phase of the farming program that is worthy of giving consideration because it is also bringing in a large sum of the finance that farmers must have to make farming operations possible. If the livestock can not be readily accountable for on a commercial basis, it must still be understood that practically every farm family consumes sixty to seventy percent of the family supply of meats from the farm and that withing itself will be considered important, because if these animals were not raised on the farm the same meats would have to be purchased to feed the farm family. Aside from consuming these meats that are produced on the farm, farmers are depending on livestock for forty percent of their cash income. Home consumption of meats and eggs are giving farmers a higher purchasing power for other necessary items on the farm and in the home.

Farmers that have a few excess animals for sale find it convenient to use the local livestock market facilities which is located near the Gloucester and Middlesex county boundary line on the North end of the county. This livestock market is open twice monthly to the public and the sale of livestock is accommodated from farmers in Middlesex, Gloucester, "Athens, and King and Queen Counties. Poultry and eggs are generally sold to local merchants with the surplus poultis and eggs also sold locally to "Bucksters" that pick-up farm produce through the county weekly. This practice we have not encouraged too much, because farmers can get better prices for their eggs if they produce and sell directly to the markets. The major problem that confronts most of the farmer is the quantity of eggs and chickens that they have for sale. Unless these items are sold in large quantities, it would not be wise to make marketing obligations out of the county due to the expense involved in this type of operations.

As the result of surveys, we have received a very good analysis of the livestock situation in the county and without a possible doubt a well balanced livestock program in Gloucester County is definitely needed to help increase the purchasing power of farmers and encourage better marketing facilities for livestock including poultry. Realizing the needs of the people the county agricultural advisory board appointed a livestock committee to work out a program that will best fit the needs of the people and to encourage the improvement of the livestock conditions for a more profitable enterprise. The livestock committee has made several surveys and reported interesting findings, which has resulted in considerable thought in trying to work out a program that will definitely help improve conditions and eventually put more money into the hands of farmers as well as get their present livestock systems on profitable basis. Many of the farmers have less than 100 layers and swine production has been on the decline for the past five years.

AGRONOMY (Cont'd)

Beth Yates, Woods X Roads, Virginia conducted a two acre demonstration with long barley seeded at the rate of two bushels per acre, with 300 pounds of 5-10-10 fertilizer broadcast at seeding time and the other 300 pounds of 5-10-10 fertilizer applied as as top dressing in February along with 40 pounds of nitrogen. The demonstration was established October 29, 1957, Yates received at total yield of 86 bushels from the two acre plot, making an average yield of 43 bushels per acre.

All of the small grain demonstrations were included in field meetings and tours sponsored by the agronomy committee. The demonstrators kept records of their demonstrations and were well informed on the demonstrations that they conducted. As demonstrators, these farmers became better informed about the important items that make it possible to increase yields. All demonstrators became more interested in the preparation of the soils, seeding methods, fertilization methods and cost of production. These demonstrations were practical educational tools by which farmers must work in carrying out good farm management practices.

As the result of proper planning and the cooperation of the county agronomy committee, many of our goals outlined at the beginning of the year were accomplished. During the outset of planning the year's plan of work, the agronomy committee had one major objective in mind and that was to reach the people where they were and set up the various projects according to favorable conditions in order that due consideration could be given to the demonstrator as well as the project concerned. The methods used and the various educational projects demonstrated definitely played an important part in helping to get over the idea that farming is a business and good management practices will determine the outcome of any project conducted on the farm. From an educational stand point, demonstrations have proven to be one of the best teaching methods for those that are quite concerned with the necessary changes that must be made in farm operations. When a farmer actually gets an opportunity to apply his skills along with the new ideas that are presented to him, he is better informed and as the result of these type educational it is quite likely changes are brought about more rapidly than they would be otherwise.

Through practice we learn and these various demonstrations have helped develop attitudes that have faced the desire to believe that it is also possible with us when my neighbors can apply the necessary efforts to improve conditions as the results of learning to observe and putting good ideas into practice. The following result demonstrations were established according to the recommendations of the extension service and served the communities well according to the recognized needs of the people. Demonstrations established were as follows:

Corn hybrids	4	Oats	1
Weed control	2	Wheat	1
Pastures	3	Barley	1
Soybeans	4	Pastures (winter)	10

All of the demonstrations conducted served as an educational means for farmers to gain practical information. Committeemen and demonstrators witnessed improved benefits.

Small grain crops still play an important part in the farming program. Many farmers are grinding their feed for livestock locally and they sell the remainder to local markets. The wheat acreage in Gloucester County has been on a steady decline for the past five years since it is now necessary to get wheat acreage allotments to grow any reasonable amount to sell to local markets. Therefore, many farmers have resorted to planting pastures and growing other small grains and commercial field crops. In instances where small grains are not mixed together for winter cover crops and winter pastures, farmers are still interested in getting the largest practical amount of grain per acre. The agronomy committee did not leave this part of the field crop program entirely out of the program in trying to assist farmers with their farm production problems. One demonstration was planned for each one of the following small grain crops, wheat, oats and barley, and a fertilization demonstration was also planned for wheat to show the importance of proper fertilization practices for increased yields per acre. The agronomy committee proceeded with the small grain projects just as it did with previous field crop demonstrations. Cooperators and demonstrators were selected by the committee along with the assistance of the local farm agent. Desirable locations were emphasized in selecting the places for the demonstrations. Since there were not too many farmers producing small grains, it became necessary to rely mostly on cooperators that were mostly interested in growing their own small grain crops for livestock feed and these were mostly farmers with a large number of farm animals or medium poultry flocks. Demonstrators that selected the various small grain projects will be treated in the following paragraphs.

Willie B. Morris, Cappahosic, Virginia conducted a four acre demonstration with oats. Morris seeded the Arlington variety of oats October 22, 1957. The oats were seeded at the rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ bushels per acre, 300 pounds of 5-10-10 fertilizer was used at the time of seeding and 300 pounds of the same analysis of fertilizer was used to top-dress during the month of February 1958 along with 40 pounds of nitrogen per acre. Morris witnessed a yield of 274 bushels of oats per acre, which was an average yield of 68.50 bushels per acre. This yield held true to the average yields which Morris has been receiving per acre on his farm.

Albert W. Grandison, Roanoke, Virginia conducted a two acre fertilization demonstration with Vahart wheat. Grandison seeded his demonstration November 9, 1957 at the rate of $1\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of seed per acre. Fertilizer was applied on one acre at the rate of 600 pounds of 5-10-10 per acre, 300 pounds at the time of seeding and the other 300 pounds was applied in February 1958, along with 40 pounds of nitrogen. Plot number two did not receive any fertilizer and was seeded on the same date and the same rate of seed per acre. Plot number one, the plot that received the fertilizer, yielded 35 bushels of wheat per acre and plot number, the one that did not receive any fertilizer, produced a total yield of 24 bushels per acre. Without a possible doubt this particular demonstration proved the worth of using fertilizers properly and proper soil conservation practices for the use of future crops that are to be planted.

AGRONOMY (Cont'd)

The pasture program in Gloucester has been on the upward move for the past five years. The ladino-clover orchard grass pasture conducted by Thomas Howard, Ark, Virginia has been an inspiration to farmers with livestock. The Agronomy committee has also been successful in getting ten winter pastures established among clubmembers. Cooperators in the winter pasture movement were the following; Thomas Howard, Ark, Virginia; Willie B. Morris, Cappahosic, Virginia; Albert W. Lemon, Bassafrae, Virginia; Thomas Lomax, Zanoni, Virginia; C. C. Gardner, James Store, Virginia; Seth Yates, Woods X Roads, Virginia; Reverend S. F. Harris, Woods X Roads, Virginia; Clarence Washington, Woods X Roads, Virginia; Hollis Jackmond, Woods X Roads, Virginia and Robert Morris, Cappahosic, Virginia. Seed mixtures for these pastures included one bushel of oats, one bushel of rye, 15 pounds of rye grass and 15 pounds of clover. All of these pastures were fertilized at the average rate of 600 pounds of 5-10-10 per acre. These farmers have reported that these pastures have saved them more than \$250.00 in their overall feed cost during the year. These winter pastures have served as a two fold purpose, they have helped reduce the cost of feed as well as improved the soil fertility on the respective farms conducting winter pasture demonstrations. With the labor shortage growing each year farmers are beginning to realize that they must improve on their farm labor facilities and cut down on the cost of feeding livestock through the development of supplementary pastures and permanent pastures. The agronomy club members are looking forward each year to establishing some type of cover crops that will conserve their soil and help to build their farming program more economically.

Thomas Lomax, Zanoni, Virginia and Robert Morris, Cappahosic, Virginia have established permanent hog pastures. These pastures are seeded to mixtures of ladino clover and orchard grass, with one section seeded to ladino clover alone. Both demonstrations are being established to help cut the cost of swine production. Morris and Lomax have estimated that they have cut the cost of feeding their hogs by one-half and as the pasture get into full production the reduction in cost is expected to increase, which will be making it possible to grow three hogs on the original cost of one a few years ago. These demonstrators will keep records on their projects for the purpose of encouraging more farmers to seed hog pastures.

Supplementary and permanent pastures are becoming more important in the farmers program that have livestock. Many farmers are witnessing the results of good pastures for livestock. A few years ago many farmers referred to pastures as something that they could do without even if they did have livestock. Today the story has changed, farmers are finding out that they can establish a good permanent pasture on one acre of land that will far exceed the value of any other crop that they can establish on the same acre of land. Since good permanent pastures require the heavier soils, many farmers are resorting to clearing lands and draining lands that they once had discarded for other use to establish permanent pastures. Today when we talk with farmers that have established good pastures, they are always eager to stop and discuss their pasture program with you and they also refer to the fact that a good pasture is a must in any farming program where livestock is included. As one farmer has put it a good pasture is in place if only in a rotation program and use the clippings for hay. The agronomy committee is well pleased with the interest of farmers in the pasture program and each year plans are being made to increase the number of acres seeded to pastures.

AGRONOMY (Cont'd)

Walter Cooke, Sassafras, Virginia was selected to conduct the soybean varietal demonstration, along with Francis Dudley, Bellamy, Virginia. Soybeans entered in the varietal test were; Ogden, Lee, Woods Early, Dorman, Valstate and B-100. Seeds were treated with arasan and planted May 26, 1958. Dudley and Cooke seeded one portion of the fields selected for the demonstrations along with 600 pounds of 0-10-20 fertilizer per acre and seeded the second portion without applying any fertilizer. Both plots had been seeded the previous year to corn hybrids which had received an apply supply of fertilizers per acre. As the result of these varietal demonstrations the Lee soybean showed marked improvements over the other beans seeded in the demonstrations with the Ogden soybean ranking second. The beans seeded on plots that received fertilizers did not show any difference in yield or appearance of the stalks. These demonstrations also proved that the best fertilization practice for soybean crops is to fertilize the crop well that is previously grown on the field, and the best rotation for soybeans is to let the beans follow corn crops that have received an apply supply of fertilizer. Both of the soybean varietal demonstrations were included in field meetings and agronomy tours. Farmers that attended the tours and field meetings appreciated the varietal type of educational demonstrations where they were able to observe many varieties of field crops produced in the same area. Seeds for these varietal demonstrations were donated by County-City Supply Incorporated, Gloucester, Virginia. Approximately 135 farmers witnessed these varietal demonstrations on three field meetings and two tours.

The agronomy club has been very pleased at the cooperation given by clubmembers in establishing these various educational demonstrations. To have special projects to be included in tours and field meetings give much more encouragement for demonstrators to do a better job and as the result the demonstrator often receives increased benefits from his project and this type of information coming from the demonstrators and cooperators gets more farmers interested than would have been otherwise.

Farmers are becoming more conscious of the fact that higher yields per acre is the only remaining factor that will enable them to balance the farm program and increase net earnings. Farmers are encouraged when they can get high yields and reap monetary benefits from their harvest. As a matter of helping to keep farmers encouraged and to emphasize good management practices, the Bank of Gloucester makes an annual award to the farmer that produces the highest number of bushels of soybeans per acre.

This year the local farm agent measured six of the nine plots entered in the soybean yield contest and the average yield was 35 bushels per acre among contestants. Walter Cooke, Sassafras, Virginia received the highest yield with 38.9 bushels per acre. Cooke's plot did not receive any fertilizer, he seeded three pecks of Lee Soybeans per acre. The seed was treated with arasan and seeded May 26, 1958. The plot had been seeded previously to corn and clover. The previous corn crop had received 800 pounds of 5-10-10 fertilizer per acre and the clover crop was turned under in early spring. All of the contestant received an increase in yield per acre from two to four bushels.

The agronomy club has served as an educational group in assisting the local farm agent in getting the extension agronomy program across to the many interested farmers in the county. The agronomy group has not only assisted in giving information and instructions others, but they have been able to increase their knowledge about various agronomy projects. As the result of well planned demonstrations and interested demonstrators, we have approximately 75 percent of the farmers using recommended varieties of certified hybrid corn seeds. The high yield contest has also helped to make farmers aware of the importance of trying to get the highest yield possible per acre. In the process of following up the recommendations on corn hybrids, cultural and fertilization methods along with crop rotations have played an important part in soil improvement practices. More farmers are beginning to seed winter cover crops and green manure crops to aid in building their soils. These improved practices are discussed periodically in the group meetings as well as on tours and field meetings and farmers are becoming more interested in getting their soil tested in order that they may get the proper recommendations for producing corn crops. The farmer that is well acquainted with his soils and tries to follow recommendations is always the winner in the end. The guess method of farming has gone forever and farmers are beginning to realize it and they are seeking information every place possible to help them improve their soils and crop yields.

Soybeans are considered to be the second crop in production and commercial value in the county. Corn is rated first commercially. Soybean crops being another one of the field crop projects that farmers are very much concerned with, the agronomy committee has also found it necessary to include farm product as another part of its major activity. The one major objective of the agronomy club is to get farmers to produce the highest yield possible per acre to help increase the net earning per farm in the county. Soybean crops are listed as conveniently located in Gloucester County in relationship to marketing facilities. Louis Groh and Sons, Clay Bank, Virginia, purchase and store all of the soybeans produced in the county. Farmers from adjoining counties sell their soybeans to this market also. Groh and Sons incorporated has always presented favorable market prices to farmers in this section of the state, prices are well in line with Baltimore and Richmond prices. This convenient marketing facility has helped greatly to improve the living conditions of farm people in Gloucester County. Many farmers are still working small acreage and by being near the market they are able to assist farmers that have harvesting machinery and in return they can get their harvesting done very reasonable. Long distance hauling would compell many of our small farmers to resort to some other type crops.

As a method to get more farmers to increase their soybean yields per acre the agronomy club set the following goals for 1958; (1) Get all clubmembers to increase their yields to 30 bushels per acre, (2) Conduct one soybean varietal demonstration, (3) Conduct two fertilization demonstrations with recommended soybean varieties, (4) Get two new members to enter the soybean contest, and (5) Offer prizes to the members that produce the most soybeans per acre, prizes to be first, second and third. In order for the club to get these projects of to a good start for 1958, a county wide meeting was called and a specialist was invited to speak to the group. M. T. Carter, Agronomist, Virginia State College, Petersburg, Virginia conducted the discussion and made suggestions for promoting the contest and setting up demonstrations

Willie B. Morris, Cappahosic, Virginia and Walter F. Cooke, Sasasfras, Virginia conducted the two corn hybrid demonstrations selected by the agronomy committee. Morris seeded Punks G-70A and Cooke seeded Wood V-44. These demonstrations were established according to the recommendations of the extension service. Both demonstrations were included in the agronomy tour this fall. Morris received a yield of 83 bushels per acre and Cooke received a yield of 86 bushels per acre. During the past two years Cooke has increased his yield per acre from his corn demonstrations more than twenty eight bushels per acre. Prior to becoming a demonstrator, Cooke seed only open-pollinated corn. This year Cooke also won second prize at the county for his corn exhibit. Cooke and Morris were very pleased at the results received from their demonstrations and they are planning to conduct demonstrations with corn hybrids for 1959.

Other educational demonstrations conducted by the agronomy club members during 1958 included, two corn hybrid varietal demonstrations, one fertilization demonstration that involved 1000 pounds of a complete fertilizer per acre and two chemical weed control demonstrations in corn crops. Hezekiah Hill, Pinetta, Virginia and Walter F. Cooke, Sasasfras, Virginia conducted the corn hybrid varietal demonstrations which included the following corn hybrids, VPI 426, Ohio G-54, Southern States Pocahontas, Punk G-91, Punk G-134, Pioneer 309A, Pioneer 510, VPI 648 and two other Southern States varieties Catawba and Cherokee. Seeds and fertilizers for both of the varietal demonstrations were donated by County-City Supply Incorporated, Gloucester, Virginia. Both demonstrations were seeded, fertilized, and cultivated according to the recommendations of the extension service. Hill expressed his opinion as the result of his yield that the VPI 426 proved to be the best corn for his soils. Hill received an average yield of 78 bushels of corn per acre. Cooke chose the Punk G-134 variety from his plot because it yielded well and turned out to be a very good show corn for the county exhibit. Cooke's average yield was approximately 83 bushels per acre. These educational demonstrations served their purpose well, because they were included in most of the agronomy tours conducted and farmers were given an opportunity to compare several varieties of corn within a given area. These type of educational demonstrations are interesting to conduct and many of the demonstrators are willing to conduct these demonstrations to help form conclusions as to the type or variety of corn hybrids that will do well on their farms.

According to reports from demonstrators and the number of persons that attended five field meetings and two tours that included these various corn hybrid demonstrations, approximately two hundred and seventy-five persons witnessed these demonstrations. News articles and radio programs included information and results on many of these demonstrations as well as farmers were given an opportunity to express themselves at field meetings, community meetings, tours and on radio programs.

The eighteen members enrolled in the Gloucester County Agronomy Club averaged 78.50 bushels of corn per acre. The highest yield was 89.75 bushels per acre and the lowest yield was 72.86 bushels per acre on plots set aside for measurements for the corn trophy. George Gregory, Oak Fork, Virginia had the highest yield, Walter F. Cooke, Sasasfras, Virginia, the second highest with 86.34 bushels per acre and Hezekiah Hill, Pinetta, Virginia had the third highest with 84.91 bushels per acre.

The overall educational program that involves the various agronomy projects conducted in the county has gradually helped to make it possible as well as profitable for a larger percentage of farmers to witness better yields and increased net income per acre. The Extension Service has taken the lead in promoting good sound farming practices that every farm owner and tenants as well can gain some knowledge about production and management in the farming business. The agronomy club has assisted the county agent greatly with the many educational projects that have been necessary for farmers to conduct for the benefit of helping to improve the general overall production of farm crops in Gloucester County. All of the demonstrations conducted this year were successful; However, as the result of conducting these demonstrations among farmers, we have witnessed the fact that the demonstrators have become better informed about certain physical conditions of their soils as well as increased knowledge about the crops that they have been producing over the past years. Since it is impossible for us to review all of the demonstrations and projects conducted this year, we will attempt to give a brief summary of a few demonstrations that involved many of the major factors that farmers in Gloucester County are particular concern with and are anxious to get a better understanding for improving their methods of farming.

Thomas Howard Jr., Ark, Virginia has conducted the permanent pasture demonstration which the Plant Food Institute of Virginia and North Carolina has worked on jointly as an educational project and a demonstration with the Virginia Agricultural Extension Service. Recommendations for the demonstration were made by the Extension Service and materials were furnished by the Plant Food Institute. This demonstration was established more than five years ago with a mixture of ladino-clover and orchard grass. It has only been reseeded two different times as the result of damages done by long hot dry summer months. The job of the extension agent was one that attributed to the various needs and requirements of the demonstration. The soils were tested regularly and fertilizers were applied according to the recommendations or results of the soil test. J. F. Shoulders, Associate Extension Agronomist assisted the local agent with recommendations for the demonstration. For the past two years, split applications of fertilizers have used on the one acre plot. Five hundred pounds of 5-10-10 fertilizer was applied during the month of February and the second five hundred pound application was made in July. This particular pasture demonstration has saved Howard hundreds of dollars annually in the cost of feed for his livestock. Since this past year his cow received approximately 265 days grazing and one-half ton to hay was gathered from the plot. The cost of feed has been cut more than fifty percent and labor approximately eighty percent. This demonstration has been included on all of the county agronomy tours. More than ten farmers have been encourage to established ladino-clover orchard grass pastures as the result of the particular demonstration.

H. T. Carter, Agronomist, Virginia State College, Petersburg, Virginia assisted the local farm agent in conducting four demonstrations with corn hybrids and two demonstrations with corn hybrids that involved chemical weed control methods. Demonstrations conducted involved, two demonstrations with recommended varieties of corn for eastern Virginia; one varietal corn hybrid demonstration that involved eight recommended varieties of corn for Gloucester County and one fertilization demonstration that involved 1000 pounds of a complete fertilizer per acre.

services were requested.

The county agronomy committee consisting of a group of interested farmers that are willing to try and do something about farmers production and net profit problems has assisted the county agent greatly in helping to carry on the county extension program. Officers of the organization are, Thomas Lomax, Zanoni, Virginia, President; Oliver W. Driver, Ark, Virginia, Vice-president; Thomas W. Howard, Ark, Virginia, Secretary, and Willie B. Morris, Cappahosic, Virginia Treasurer. Total membership for the club in 1958 were eighteen members. Requirements for membership is \$1.50. In order for a farmer to enter in the corn, soybean or pasture contest which is sponsored by the club, he must become a member during the time that the club opens its membership drive. The membership drive generally close during the month of June each year. The group meets three or four times annually and more often if necessary. Aside from the regular order of business during each meeting, specialist are generally invited into the meetings to discuss some phase of farm practices and demonstrators are given an opportunity to review their projects with the group. This year representatives of the soil conservation service and the agricultural stabilization committee were invited into the regular meetings held and farmers were given an opportunity to discuss their problems and they also received more information concerning the operations and practices of these various agencies. The club held four organizational meetings this year, sponsored eight field meetings and four tours that involved twelve demonstrations and educational plots conducted by clubmembers. Approximately 260 farmers and cooperators witnessed these field meetings and tours conducted by the agronomy club.

The progress of the various projects conducted were emphasized through news articles, pictures and through local radio programs. As a means of helping to keep interest, slides of the various projects were taken to be kept in the office files for future references. The general public was given information on various demonstrations for the purpose of increasing the knowledge and participation in these farming operations. News articles and radio broadcast containing information on new developments and recommendations helped served as an educational service to the many persons that we would not reach ordinarily in our regular routine of work in the county. We have access to a weekly news paper and a daily news paper in getting out the information to our farm people. The Gazette-Journal is a weekly paper and the Daily press is a daily paper that helps tremendously in getting our many ideas and objectives over to the people. Editors of both papers are very cooperative with the extension agent. In the weekly paper we are given a column without charge to help keep farmers informed on current happenings in the agricultural world. These articles also helps to keep our extension program before the people and our cooperators and demonstrators are ever reminded of the importance of keeping their projects up to date in the news and their interest is increased as the result of knowing that they are being checked for ideas and suggestions on their projects. As the result of advertising these various projects and demonstrations, local business establishments have contributed prizes and awards for outstanding yields and improved farming practices. This type of interest is much needed in carrying on the extension program and the demonstrator receives an award two fold when his projects shows an increase in yield per acre which in return gives higher net profits along with the prizes that are won to help keep up the interest.

2. Conduct and establish field crop demonstrations according to the recommendations of the Extension Service. Demonstrations conducted to involve proper cultural, fertilization and seeding practices. Records established by demonstrators to be kept for future references.
 - a. Corn: Two demonstrations with recommended corn hybrids
One corn hybrid varietal demonstration
One corn hybrid fertilization demonstration
 - b. Soybeans: One soybean varietal demonstration
Two soybean fertilization demonstrations
Two soybean demonstrations with recommended varieties
 - c. Pasture: Two permanent pasture demonstrations
Two summer pasture demonstrations
Two fall pasture demonstrations
One pasture fertilization demonstration
One new pasture established according to recommendations
 - d. Small Grain:
One wheat demonstration with recommended variety of seed
One oat demonstration with recommended seed variety
One barley demonstration with recommended seed variety
One wheat fertilization demonstration

Methods to be used in trying to accomplish the many goals and objectives established were outlined by the agronomy committee. The committee studied the many possibilities of selecting demonstrators, giving assistance, motivating more farmers into the use of better farming methods, and actually getting good demonstrations underway for the best possible use of everyone concerned. The agronomy committee followed through with the idea of selecting the demonstrators and cooperators for the various projects planned. Information and instructions were adopted by the committee and projects were conducted accordingly.

The agronomy committee realized the fact that assistance of specialist was necessary to aid in carrying out the projects and demonstrations planned successfully. M. T. Carter, Agronomist, Virginia State College, Petersburg, Virginia, assisted the committee and the extension agent in selecting demonstrators and cooperators for the desired projects. Carter was invited to meet with the committee in early spring. In this particular meeting, careful attention was given to the importance of good land use practices, proper cultural and fertilization methods, selection of certified seeds and timely planting dates for best results. Demonstrators and cooperators were given the necessary information to follow in getting their various projects established. All demonstrations were established primarily to produce the highest yields possible per acre of land at the least possible cost of necessary materials and labor. Certified seeds, recommended analysis of fertilizers and proper fertilization practices were specially emphasized with projects to be conducted by agronomy club members. The local agent assisted the demonstrators with soil test and securing seed varieties for their demonstrations. Local feed and seed dealers were informed about the projects being conducted and they cooperated very readily when their

AGRONOMY

Corn, soybeans and small grain crops constitute the bulk of the commercial crops produced in Gloucester County. Corn and soybeans are produced more abundantly, due to the market facilities for these particular products. Local buyers have encouraged the production of these crops because they have specialized in marketing and production on a very large scale. This section is handicapped for foreign markets and the cost of production must be kept low for farmers to profit from their crops; therefore, it has been essential that they follow through with the field crops that are mostly in demand from local buyers. Other means of transportation to various marketing concerns would involve distant travel and heavy bridge tolls. Yet, farmers have been very fortunate to have these marketing facilities available to them in this county, because adjoining counties have been doing a major portion of their commercial sales of small grains, corn and soybean crops in the county.

Since the majority of our farmers have to supplement their farm income, and are classified as part time farmers, local marketing facilities have played an important role in making it possible to harvest and market most of their farm crops daily; thus enhancing the possibilities of working part time in the rivers oystering and fishing. Soybeans, corn and small grains being the major field crops for commercial concerns in the county has also made it necessary that our county extension program become a part of this economic movement. Standards of living are based on the economical conditions of the people; therefore, in order for the farm people to raise their living standards, they must first increase their family income. As a means of approaching this situation, an agronomy committee was appointed by the county agricultural advisory board to make surveys and analyze conditions. The result obtained by the committee showed that, (1) Farmers were confronted with the problems of high cost production and low income; (2) Farmers were becoming more aware of the fact that production of small scales definitely did not pay; (3) It was becoming necessary for farmers to mechanize their farms to meet the supply and demands; (4) Close observation of soil conservation practices were being neglected, and (5) Majority of the farmers did not follow a definite farm plan.

The result of these findings gave the committee something definite to work on in planning projects and activities to help improve the conditions. The committee set the following goals, planned the following demonstrations and outlined the following methods and educational activities to help promote better farming methods and to also help to increase the net earnings of farmers.

1. The agronomy club met and decided to conduct field crop projects among agronomy club members and cooperators to help motivate the thinking of others in getting increased production and higher yields per acre.
 - a. Get an average yield of 85 bushels per acre of corn hybrids among club members
 - b. Get an average of 36 bushels of soybeans per acre among agronomy club members
 - c. Get every agronomy club member to establish a permanent pasture to help cut the cost of feed.

TYPE OF AGRICULTURE

Gloucester County is located in the upper tidewater section of Virginia. It is located in the southeastern section of Virginia and within the boundaries of the following counties, Middlesex County on the North, Mathews County on the East, York County on the South and King and Queen County on the West. According to the climatic conditions, the temperatures are moderate and the soils are fertile. Under these particular conditions, general farming methods can be practiced and any crops conducive to the temperatures that prevail in the county can be grown successfully.

The boundaries of the county are located within an area of 223 square miles. The county is surrounded by six rivers, namely; the Severn River, located on the south and southeast; the York River, on the south and southwest; the Ware River located on the east and northeast; The Piankatank River is on the north and the Popopotank River forms the northwest boundary. The waterways consume a total of 24,300 acres of land. Lands recorded for agricultural purposes, cropland, woodland and idle land involves 140,140 acres, of this total, 44,000 acres are under cultivation and 96,100 acres are being used for commercial forest. The total area of Gloucester County including waterways is 164,500 acres.

Soils located in Gloucester County are of the Coastal Plain Series, and are divided into four categories. The first of these classes being well drained soils with good clay subsoils, the second class being have no good clay subsoils and leach very badly, the third series of soils require simple drainage systems and the fourth soil series requires a complex drainage system for general farming practices. Sassafras and Kempville fine sandy loam type soils are well spread in the county. These soils are well drained with good clay subsoils and are classed in the first group and will grow any of the crops adapted to the eastern section of Virginia, including alfalfa. The Sassafras and Kempville fine sandy loam type soils are considered to be the best in the Coastal Plain Region of Virginia. The Sumford and Evesboro sandy loam type soils are in the second category, these soils leach very badly and crops suffer quite heavily when these soil types do not receive sufficient rain falls to keep moisture readily available for plant growth. Since these soils do not maintain sufficient moisture for long season crops, they are best adapted for truck crops which require as short a season possible to reach maturity. Lenoir, Dragston and Atlee soil classes will produce all of the major type crops produced in the county which includes soybeans, corn, small grains, hay, pastures and potatoes. These soil classes only require a simple drainage system for best results. Bladen and Elkton sandy loam and silt loam type soils are quite prevalent in the lowland sections of the county. These soil types are grey, muddy, stiff and will not drain easily. These soil types require a complex drainage system and will grow pasture, hay crops and recommended general farm crops when properly done.

Major crops produced in Gloucester County are soybeans, corn, small grain crops, pastures, potatoes, leguminous crops, vegetables, flowers and hay. The major cash crops include corn, soybeans, fruits and vegetables, small grain crops and forest products. General farming practices are carried out in Gloucester county with the larger percentage of the farmers working on a part-time basis. Part-time farmers supplement their farm income by fishing and oystering.

Organizational Work: (Cont'd)

Along with the assistance of the county agent, the county advisory board is responsible for outlining the county program of work and the annual plan of work. The program of work is set up on a five or ten year basis and the annual plan of work indicates goals to be accomplished from year to year toward the program of work. The objectives of the extension program of work are based on the needs of the people and each year activities and projects are set up in the form of demonstrations and educational projects for observation to help to increase interest and encourage better practices for economical living and increased income through higher productivity. In our various advisory board meeting we are continuously training leaders to recognize their community needs and plan accordingly.

The county agricultural advisory board meets three or four times annually. Its officers consist of President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer and Reporter. The annual planning meeting is held during the month of November or December, which ever month seems most feasible for the group to get down to planning for the next year. Other meetings are generally held quarterly. The officers of the organization are select people that well understand the county movements, trends and attitudes in order that they may assist the county agent with many problems that are encountered and need immediate consideration. This type of assistance does help the agent to carry out a more effective extension program, because leaders that are trained to recognize the needs of the people soon accept more responsible roles in promoting an extension program that will readily fit the needs of the people.

The county agricultural advisory board also works with the youth in the county, but the county advisory council which is made up of youth and adults plan and work with the county agent in promoting the county youth programs. We have a special group of adults that work and plan along with the youth in the county. This group is called the advisory council. Members of this council are also on the advisory board. This group meets monthly and conduct activities to assist the 4-H members and older youth with county and state projects.

Agricultural committees that are also assisting in promoting the extension program include the following; Agronomy, livestock, garden, forestry, community development, and soil conservation. The county agricultural fair committee is also a part of the county agricultural advisory board. The 4-H junior council committee or group consist of the officers of all the organized 4-H clubs in the county. This organization assist with the promotion of the county 4-H club program.

The community neighborhood leaders system is a part of the community organization. Each of the fourteen organized communities in the county has a community chairman. These community chairman have from three to five individuals working various sections of the communities in which they are located and they are known as neighborhood leaders. These leaders work independently on various projects and collectively whenever the community chairman find it necessary and especially when the entire community is involved in helping to accomplish certain goals and participating in various county contest. The neighborhood leader system has been our greatest promotion group for all county wide activities.

COUNTY ORGANIZATION

The Gloucester County Extension Organization is set up according to the National Extension Program. The organization is one where farm and home demonstration work is being carried on through the farm, home, church, school and various organized groups that involve youth and adult men and women. The true aim of the extension program is to conduct an educational program that help to raise the standards of living of all people economically and socially. The Extension Service is a public educational service organization set up to give free information to those desiring such and to demonstrate certain projects and practices that individuals and groups can participate in to help them get better acquainted with better methods of carrying out certain farm and home practices.

As we attempt to dispose of the many educational projects that are outlined for the benefit and improvement of our people, we have found it necessary to break up the geographical arrangement of the county into interest groups and sections for better working conditions. These factors have been taken under consideration for the major purpose of getting more people interested in the Extension Program and to work with individuals that are mostly concerned with certain problems and are engaged in various occupations. We have found that occupational influences have had much to do with the interest and development of individuals when we attempt to establish various projects according to localities. The needs and conditions under which many of our people subjected to require considerable thought and understanding before any type of activities can be outlined. The Extension Program must be designed to help meet the needs and interest of the people with whom we are to work and some of the basic factors, with which we must consider basically to work with are economic conditions, educational levels, social conditions and soil conditions. As the result of surveys, we have been able to work out a community and neighborhood system that enables us to work with the various groups according to their interest, ideas and physical set-up of the community. On a community and neighborhood basis we are able to call interested groups together and discuss situations that might affect the community as a whole and as follow-up information is needed we are in a position to make personal contacts. Community and neighborhood meetings are justifiable to the extent of getting group ideas and where it is often necessary to work with the community on certain projects.

The extension program in Gloucester County has been developed with one major idea in mind to help educate youth and adults according to their needs and interest. The one over-all countywide organization that assist the county agent in planning the extension program according to the needs of the people which is mostly formulated as the result of surveys, personal contacts, census reports, farm and home visits is the county agricultural advisory board. The board consist of representatives men and women that are leaders in the fourteen sections of the county. These sections or county sub-divisions were outlined according to interest groups and conditions most favorable in trying to put over a good county extension program. These sections or sub-divisions are generally known to us as communities. Each community has at least one man and one woman on the advisory board. The county advisory board has a membership of fifty-one. Community chairmen from each of the fourteen communities, officers of the various community clubs, Four-H club officers of the county 4-H council, adult 4-H leader officers and committee chairmen are responsible for the advisory board work and functions.

FOREWORD

This narrative report is prepared annually by the county extension agent to give a brief summary of the various activities conducted through the county extension program. In making out this report various types of data and information is used to give a clear understanding of the many kinds of methods used in helping to carry on the county extension program. In order for the extension program to be set up properly in the county, it is necessary for surveys to be made to get the information needed to plan an effective program according to the needs of the people. As the result of these various surveys, problems are recognized, and it is at this particular point that the needs of the people are revealed. Problems and conditions being varied and many, planning groups are used to work out suitable projects to help improve the county situation. The answer to many of the problems are not easily found; therefore, as the result of many efforts and multiple problems encountered, it is necessary for us to establish some type of record from year to year to review for future references and follow-up information. This report is mostly used as an extension guide for agents that work in the county and references for local, state and federal agencies that may find use of the information and use it in connection with the extension program or other program development necessary for the county.

Cooperative Extension Work is a public educational agency used to carry information from research centers, experiment stations, land grant colleges and the department of agriculture to all people in a usable form. Each county representative is responsible for setting up an effective planning group that is willing to cooperate with the agent in analyzing the situation as the result of surveys used and apply information received from various educational institutions to help build better economic conditions and social relationships among all people.

As we attempt to make a summary of the major activities and accomplishments in the county as the result of the extension program, we feel justified in saying that youth and adults have assisted in planning the County Extension Program and have also contributed a major part in helping to carry out the program according to the needs of the people. The assistance received from specialist, research centers, experiment stations, federal agricultural agencies, land-grant colleges, organizations and various institutions has helped direct us properly into the making of a sound extension program.

To those individuals, organizations and educational institutions, that have helped make this program possible and supported our projects and objectives, we acknowledge the services of the following; Hampton Institute; Virginia State College; Virginia Polytechnic Institute; Board of Supervisors, Gloucester, Virginia; Gloucester County School Board, Gloucester Virginia; Bank of Gloucester, Louis Groh and Sons, Clay Bank, Virginia; County-City Supply, Gloucester, Virginia; Gloucester Chick Hatchery; Gazette-Journal and Daily Press News Papers; Gloucester Equipment Company; Virginia Truck Experiment Station, Norfolk, Virginia; Virginia Eastern Research Station, Warsaw, Virginia; Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, Petersburg, Virginia; Division of Markets, Richmond, Virginia; Virginia Forestry Service; Agricultural Stabilization Committee; Soil Conservation Service; Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. and Virginia Agricultural Extension Service.

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ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service

Freedom B. Goode

Name

Local Farm Agent

Agent

Title

Assistant Agent

Assistant Agent

Assistant Agent



1958

Gloucester

County