

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE WORK  
IN  
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

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

EXTENSION SERVICE  
County Agent Work

PLAN OF WORK  
1961

COUNTY Greensville

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Local Farm Agent

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## Plan of Work For Greenville County

### I. The County Situation:

Soils - The soils in one section of the county are classified as being in Piedmont area; in the other section they are said to be in the Tidewater area.....ranging from rolling to low, flat bottom land. The rolling type is subject to considerable washing and consequent loss of soil. Some of the prevailing sandy loam soil is good in quality, most, however, is from fair to poor in fertility.

Crops - Corn, soybeans, cotton, peanuts, and tobacco constitute the main cash crops...the acreage of the latter three being limited by the PMA CONTROLS. More farmers sold soybeans this year than ever before. This crop is also interplanted with corn by many farmers and the usual practice is to hog them down. The majority of farmers plant cover crops and an assortment of small grains for forage and hay, which is supplemented by the use of peanut vines. The clover and green manure crops for protection and improvement of the land is in favor and continues to grow, but not nearly enough farmers follow this practice. Ladino-orchard grass pasture continues to be established and improved with the end in view of pasturing livestock and sell on the market. Approximately 135 farmers now have pastures. While an early vegetable garden is had by all, town and farm people are not so adapt at making a fall-winter garden.

Livestock - Approximately 150 farmers sell hogs on the market, though every farmer rears hogs. The average number of cows per farm family is one. Butter and milk as are eggs and live and dressed poultry are used mostly for home use, though some are sold on the local market. A creeping pase still marks the gate of the farmers entering into the beef cattle enterprise.

Forestry - Two thirds of the county is in forests owned mostly by farmers, but the woodland is sadly depleted of good pine stands.

Income - (Estimated 1959) Thirty-nine percent of the farm operators had a gross income of \$1800, and 17 percent had a gross income of \$4500. The average net income per agricultural worker was \$600. The average gross income of all farm operators was \$3000.

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Standard of Living - (Estimated) Percentage of houses needing repair, 34. Percentage with over 1.5 persons per room 24. Percentage without electric lights, 20; running water, 85; indoor toilets, 98; central heat, 100; refrigerators, 50; radios, 20.

## II. County Population

**Total number of farm families in county, 665.**  
Owners, 427; tenants, 153; share-croppers, 85.

## III. County Organizations

One County Advisory Board with 35 members (women 10, men 25). One County Junior Council with 117 members. Ten community farm clubs with 425 members on the family basis, 14 four-H clubs whose membership annually runs over 500 members with 54 boys and 25 men as 4-H club leaders, all engaged in forwarding the Extension program.

## IV. Problems in County

Saving the soil in the county, holding and increasing its fertility is one of the biggest problems in the county...the combined forces of all agencies not successfully meeting this problem.

Increasing the yield while maintaining economic production of such crops as corn, peanuts, cotton, soybeans, and tobacco is also a major issue.

Getting the farmers to handle their farm woodland so as to get from the forests an annual income is a problem, the solution of which will add thousands of dollars to the pockets of the farmers.

Introducing beef cattle production on the farm is most difficult, though a sound start has been made. Getting the farmers to produce hogs on a large scale for the market is a problem which is meeting with a fair measure of success. Closely aligned with beef cattle and hog production is the problem of securing a cheap source of feed. Getting the farmers to establish ladino-clover-orchard grass pastures and the seeding of his farm to small grains is a problem meeting with a fair measure of success in supplying cheap feed.

Other problems at which efforts for solution are aimed are better health, living-at-home, farm ownership with painted and beautiful homes having electricity and equipped with running water and indoor toilets.

The problems above, of course, apply to juniors as well as to adults. More perplexing, however, is that of getting 4-H boys to keep record of their work; although improvement is being made along this line.

V. Method of Approach to Solving the Problems:

A 100 bushel corn club contest will be conducted. A pasture campaign will be launched. Adult result demonstrations as set forth below will be conducted. Other agencies will be cooperated with. Specialists help will be secured and county-wide activities will be carried out, all as listed below. In addition, six farm and home development demonstrations will be conducted and one live-at-home community work program will be supervised. Parents' help will be enlisted to bolster 4-H work. A forestry club will be organized to promote forestry work.

VI. Number of Adult Result Demonstrations to be Conducted, and Acres and Animals Involved:

Corn	3..20 Acres	Fall-winter	
Peanuts	3..20 Acres	Vegetables	3..1½ Acres
		Gardens	
Cotton	3..30 Acres	Swine	3..150 Animals
Beef Cattle	2..35 Animals	Farm Woods	2..300 Acres
Soybeans	3..30 Acres	Tobacco	2..2 Acres

Combined pasture and winter cover crop-Forage Crop..4..150 A.  
Terracing and related soil control .....3..30 A.  
Farm and Home Development Demonstrations .....6  
Corn above are projects for 100 bushel corn.

Total number of Adult Result Demonstrations to be conducted 37.

VII. County-wide Activities:

Four adult and four 4-H leader training meetings planned. County Farmers' Conference planned for February 23. Four field meetings planned as follows: April 1st, tobacco; August 1st., cotton and pastures; September 4th., Farm and Home Development demonstrations to be observed and inspected. Experiment Station tour planned for August. Three County Advisory Board Meetings to be held...January, April, and November. Two County Council meetings planned, one a program meeting. Tour planned for July, Achievement Day planned for October, and National 4-H Club Week to be observed in March.

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VIII. Specialist Help Needed:

For County Farmers' Conference, February 23rd

1. W. J. Nuckolls, Jr. - Inheritance--Your Farm and Family
2. C. E. Gill - Forestry

IX. Monthly Calendar of Activities:

December

Evaluating past year's work. Planning current year's work activities and making plan of work. Reorganizing 4-H clubs. Cooperating with ACP by helping farmers decide what farm practices to choose. Working with forestry specialists, signing farmers to participate in forestry program. Making farm visits and receiving office calls on miscellaneous items. Revising mailing lists. Securing demonstrators. Give radio talks, taking annual leave. Landscaping schools. Organize forestry club. Participate in sweet potato show.

January

Reorganizing 4-H clubs. Securing 4-H enrollment. Secure demonstrators. Help farm and home development demonstrators evaluate year's work and plan for 1961. Hold Advisory Board Meeting. Complete plans for holding Farmers' Conference. Start tractor and electric classes. Make farm visits on miscellaneous items. Continue to revise mailing list. Give radio talks, hold meeting with agronomy committee. Get forestry work under way.

February

Hold Farmers' Conference. Do terracing or secure help. Give radio talks. Hold 4-H meetings. Go over plans with demonstrators. Meet with agronomy committee. Hold adult leader training meeting. Secure parents' support of 4-H project work. Hold tractor and electric classes. Make farm visits to help advance program. Urge farmers to secure soil tests. Give radio talk, mail circulars, bulletins and letters on crops and livestock production. Hold forestry meetings.

March

Hold 4-H club meetings. Hold Council Planning Meeting. Hold 4-H Leader Training Meeting on record keeping and etc. Assist farmers in filing income tax returns. Urge farmers to have soil tested. Discuss with

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March Cont'd

demonstrators crop production methods and assist farmers with credit and management plans. Check on winter pasture demonstrations. Mail circulars on fertilizing pastures.

April

Hold planning meeting with Advisory Board. Advise and help farmers secure recommended feed, fertilizer and breeds of animals. Make follow-up visits on pastures. Do terracing. Take delegation of farmers to farmers' conference. Hold 4-H meeting to get delegates for the two State meetings. Field meeting to be held in farm woods, April 1. Give radio talk.

May

Hold 4-H club meeting on project work and record keeping. Checking with committees on corn, pasture. Advising farm and home development demonstrators with seed bed preparation and management. Assisting 100 bushel corn club members and peanut demonstrators with seed preparation, fertilization and seeding. Four-H Sunday to be observed. Planning for June activities. Holding tractor driving contest.

June

Hold 4-H meetings on project work and record books. Making follow-up visits to 4-H parents and adult demonstrators. Making visits to check work in live-at-home community and farm and home development demonstrators. Checking 100 bushel corn club members, on level method of cultivation. Giving radio talk.

July

Transporting 4-H delegates to State Short Course. Holding field meetings on tobacco and corn. Holding 4-H Council Meeting. Holding Committee meeting in preparation for county-wide tour. Supervising demonstration and 4-H projects. Launching pasture and campaign for seedling of pasture in September...meeting with pasture committee. Holding county-wide tour. Contacting prospective 4-H delegates to Wildlife Conference. Making radio talk on fall garden.

August

Making tour of experiment station with farmers. Holding field meeting on corn, peanuts and cotton.

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August Cont'd

Transporting delegates to Wildlife Conference. Checking 4-H projects. Making radio talk and distributing bulletins and circulars on seeding pastures. Supervising fall-winter garden demonstrators.

September

Holding 4-H club meetings on record keeping. Checking demonstrations and projects. Holding 4-H Council Meeting in preparation for Achievement Day. Holding County Advisory Board Meeting to get delegates for State Meeting. Training Achievement Day Committees. Attending State Advisory Board Meeting. Making radio talk on pastures. Holding tobacco grading demonstration.

October

Holding Achievement Day. Visiting, checking, and securing records on demonstrations and projects. Making radio talk, distributing bulletins and circulars on seeding small grains. Attending Annual Agents' Conference. Participate in Junior Hog Show and Sale.

November

Visiting, checking, and securing records on demonstrations and projects. Making out Annual Reports. Evaluating year's work. Holding County Advisory Board Meeting to report year's activities and results.

Plan of Work for Major Activities

A. Corn

1. Goal: To increase the per acre yield of corn for the county.
2. Methods To Be Used:
  - a. Conduct 100 bushel corn contest enrolling and supervising contestants with the aid of corn committee.
  - b. Conduct three demonstrations, selected and placed by the corn committee, showing how to increase yield.
  - c. Supervise the demonstrations to see that planned practices are followed.
  - d. Get County Advisory Board to sponsor contest.

### 3. General Educational Activities

Educational Activities will be carried on to promote the general use of adapted corn hybrids, and the employment of recommended cultural and fertilization practices, through meetings, circulars, farm visits, office calls, press releases, and one field meeting.

#### B. Pasture

1. Goal: To plan an effective county-wide pasture campaign, and endeavor to get each farm to provide adequate pasture for the number of head of livestock now on the farm.

To urge each farm to increase its acreage of improved pasture and the number of head of livestock on the farm as rapidly as economic conditions and good farm practices and management will justify.

#### 2. Methods To Be Used:

- a. Get County Advisory Board to sponsor contest.
- b. Continue the pasture committee and with them select strategic locations for four pasture demonstrations.
- c. With the aid of leaders closely supervise demonstrations.

### 3. General Educational Activities

Educational activities will be carried on to get each farm to provide adequate pasture for the livestock now on the farm and to increase its acreage of improved pasture and the number of head of livestock as rapidly as economic conditions and good farm practices and management will justify. Meetings, press and radio releases, farm visits by agent and leaders, circulars to farmers and to field meetings will constitute most of the educational activities to be employed.

#### C. Farm and Home Development

1. Goal: Continue the five farm and home development demonstrations now in operation.

Through these endeavors to demonstrate to the community and the county successful farm and home practices thus bringing about the most profitable operations of the farm and increase the standard of living in the home.

2. Methods To Be Used:

- a. Supply record books and assist with making entries and keeping records, and using land capability maps and soil and water conservation plant that each demonstrator has. Make farm visits and advise with families.
- b. Enlist help of soil conservationist in supervising and demonstrating programs.