

- c. Secure leaders for improved project work.
- d. Sponsor the Sears pig chain project.
- e. Have 4-H Club members to exhibit at county and state fairs.
- f. Have members to encourage the planting of pine seedlings.
- g. Participate in the 4-H District Contest.
- h. Start a baby beef project.
- i. Send a delegate or delegates to 4-H Short Course.
- j. Have youth to participate in Rural Life Sunday.
- k. Sponsor a 4-H Club Achievement Program.
- l. Have 4-H Club members to attend the 4-H summer camp.
- m. Have one member to carry an experimental poultry project.
- n. Have a county-wide 4-H Club project.
- o. Assist the youth with the promotion of 4-H Club Week.
- p. Investigate possibility of a 4-H Club Share-the-Fun Program.
- q. Visit 4-H Club members during the year and advise them on their project work.
- r. Use mass media, news articles, radio, bulletins and circular letters to promote youth work.

VIII.

4-H CLUB WORK

1. SITUATION AND TRENDS

- a. There are 11 in-school clubs consisting of 96 boys and 110 girls.
- b. There are regular monthly meetings during the school year.
- c. The fifth, sixth and seventh grade 4-H Club members are taking forestry appreciation for the 1958-59 year.
- d. There is one senior club, taking junior leadership as their project.
- e. There are several senior 4-H Club youth who are members-at-large.

2. PROBLEMS

- a. Lack of project and community leaders.
- b. One high school does not have a 4-H Club organization.
- c. Proper meeting places.
- d. Failure to retain the senior youth in 4-H Club program.
- e. In high school, youth are limited as to organizations they can join.

3. OBJECTIVES

- a. Extend the 4-H Club program to more youth.
- b. Encourage youth to take more interest in preparing for adulthood.
- c. Improve 4-H record-keeping and a greater desire for proficiency.
- d. Encourage youth to participate in community, county and state activities.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. Have 4-H Club members to write news articles on their projects.
- b. The 4-H County Council will be the governing body of the 4-H Club program.

as helpers in bringing about the complete project. It is hoped that construction of one or more structures will be attained this year.

Every effort will be used to hasten the materialization of this worthy project. It will aid in flood control and improve the economic value of farm ~~xxx~~ property.

G. THE FIVE COUNTY FAIR

The Agent will cooperate with the other counties and local farm and business personnel.

The farm people will be encouraged to exhibit in order that the large display will be educational and bring about greater appreciation for the agricultural business. Furthermore, the fair will help to "narrow the gap" between rural and urban people. There are eight divisions of exhibits that include Agriculture and Home Economics.

D. FARM AND HOME MANAGEMENT

There are three farmers participating in this program. Two are TVA "pilot demonstrators". These three farmers are assisted in many phases of agriculture, production, marketing, and combination of enterprises. Furthermore, they carry out demonstrations on their farms to further the development of agriculture.

These farmers will be encouraged to strive for greater efficiency in farming, and participation in agricultural and economic affairs of the Community, County, State, and Nation.

Under this program the farm and home must function as a unit.

- c. Increase the planting of seedlings by 50,000.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. Inform farmers about the services offered by the Virginia Forest Service by farm visits, radio and news releases.
- b. Assist with the control of pine saw-fly by using mass media, news articles, and radio.
- c. Take orders for forest pine seedlings.
- d. Advise farmers concerning the ACP payments for forestry practices.
- e. Investigate the possibility of having a demonstration on the control of undesirable hardwood, and pine re-forestation.

VII.

MISCELLANEOUS

A. Fruit Growers

There are nine peach growers that produce peaches for sale, and six apple orchardmen. The value of apples and peaches sold on the commercial scale is not obtainable since the Census does not treat the county data as such.

There are some commercial apple and peach growers who do a volume of business.

A fruit growers' school is held in February of each year in conjunction with other counties nearby.

Assistance will be given to fruit growers, both large and small in volume of business.

Farm visits and mass media will be used.

B. SOIL CONSERVATION

The Agent will cooperate with Extension's co-workers, the Soil Conservation service men. The Agent is Secretary of the Piedmont Soil Conservation District.

The Buffalo Creek Watershed project is moving along with much progress. At present, landowner signatures are being secured to easements. This project is a part of Public Law 566.

Each dam site has a local committee and these committees function

The Agents will assist in many ways to keep the farmer informed on poultry matters; and furthermore, will cooperate with the poultry service men in the county for better poultry.

VII.

FORESTRY

1. SITUATION AND TRENDS

- a. The woodland in farms constitutes 30% or more of the area, around 85,000 acres.
- b. There are several local lumber manufacturers that own tracts of timber.
- c. The State has a large tract of forest, somewhere around 8,000 acres, supervised by the Virginia Division of Forestry.
- d. Lumber and pulpwood are important sources of income. The shipping points by rail are Farmville, Pamplin, Prospect, and Green Bay.
- e. The farmers have been planting about 20 to 25% of the yearly plantings.

2. PROBLEMS

- a. Markets for certain types of hard wood.
- b. Forestry management and low income from forestry.
- c. Undesirable young growth of hardwood brush.
- d. Lack of reforestation.

3. OBJECTIVES

- a. Encourage the farmer to increase income from forestry.
- b. Bring about more interest in reforestation.
- c. Harvest timber according to good forestry management.
- d. Have trees to promote conservation, where crops are impractical.

4. GOALS

- a. Work with the Virginia Forest Service to get 25 additional woodland management projects.
- b. Inform farmers to use 2-4-5-T to control sprouting of hardwood when cutting for fire and flue wood.

4. GOALS

- a. Increase the number of registered sires by six, and of purebred boars by ten.
- b. Have more farmers to market feeder calves and feeder steers and heifers, through organized sales.
- c. Have all sheep flock owners to use purebred rams.
- d. Increase the number of BCIA herds by 3.
- e. Increase the number of livestock producers to treat for internal and external parasites.
- f. Have improved feeding programs for beef, hogs and sheep.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. Visit all beef, sheep producers in the county.
- b. Assist producers in the purchase of registered breeding stock, such as source of, type and time to buy.
- c. Keep all beef cattle producers aware of organized markets.
- d. Assist with the organized marketing and have farmers to help.
- e. Promote the marketing of wool and lambs cooperatively.
- f. Keep all producers informed of good livestock management.
- g. Promote the docking and castrating of all market lambs.
- h. Take beef producers to the beef cattle field day at Middleburg.
- i. Secure a sheep shearer for the sheep producers.
- j. Use all types of mass media.

V.

POULTRY.

The poultry enterprise is minor. There being some broilers produced; however, the number of laying hen flocks on the commercial scale is increasing.

There is an egg-grading and marketing establishment located in the county that serves more than the state of Virginia.

It is becoming more difficult for family flock owners to find a market for their surplus eggs.

- d. There is one livestock market but not a place to market the better type of beef, hogs and sheep.
- e. There are some farmers who market over 100 fat hogs per year.
- f. There are many farmers that have one or more brood sows.
- g. The ewe numbers total about 200 head.
- h. There are two registered breeding flocks of sheep - Suffolk and Hampshire.
- i. There is one purebred Yorkshire hog breeder.

2. Problems

- a. The lack of purebred sires for each beef cow herd.
- b. The use of poor quality forage and pasture.
- c. Inefficient sheep flock size.
- d. Improper housing.
- e. The control of parasites.
- f. Failure to use the organized markets.
- g. The desire to purchase bulls at the wrong time of year.
- h. The shearing of sheep.
- i. The use of purebred boars.

3. OBJECTIVES

- a. Encourage the production of type ^{beef} ~~mix~~ calves.
- b. Improve the quality of beef cow herds.
- c. Encourage the use of organized marketing of livestock.
- d. Improve the feeding programs: of beef, hogs and sheep.
- e. Increase the number of beef herds and sheep flocks.

- c. Have dairymen to use labor-saving methods for unsatisfactory labor.
- d. Have 4 dairymen to build some type of silo.
- e. Increase the number of dairy herds in the county's artificial breeding service.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. Hold a dairy meeting during the year to emphasize DHIA, artificial breeding, and good dairy herd management.
- b. Cull and feed more cows as to the DHIA records.
- c. Make personal farm visit to learn each individual dairy.
- d. Take dairymen to the Artificial Breeding Service Center at Rocky Mount in August.
- e. Increase the consumption of silage per dairy cow by sending out research information.
- f. Use all types of mass media.
- g. Seek the possibility of having more non-dairymen to ~~explore~~ raise replacement heifers.
- h. Work closely with the DHIA supervisor and get additional DHIA members.

IV.

BEEF CATTLE, HOGS and SHEEP.

Committee:

F. G. Baldwin
George Shorter
J. G. Hudson
D. B. Phillips
R. M. Bradshaw
Thos. Driskill

1. SITUATION AND TRENDS

- a. There are 50 or more herds of beef cattle, varying from 10 to 250 head per herd.
- b. The herds are being increased in size each year.
- c. Most herds are sired by a purebred bull.

- e. More than half of the Grade "A" dairymen are using bulk tanks and one dairyman has a pipe-line milking system.
- f. Most of the dairymen raise their forage and concentrates, buying only the supplement.
- g. The dairymen are raising some of their replacement heifers. Furthermore, some farmers are raising replacement heifers to sell.
- h. Farmville has a creamery that markets milk and creamery products.
- i. More farmers are contemplating on the dairy business each year. Dairy herds are increasing in number.

2. PROBLEMS

- a. Sacrificing high milk and but~~er~~fat production per cow for herd cow numbers.
- b. The control of mastitis.
- c. The use of herd bulls along with artificial breeding.
- d. The lack of high quality forage and pasture.
- e. Surplus milk and unsatisfactory labor.
- f. The failure to use DHIA and the artificial breeding programs.
- g. The high cost of dairy feeds.

3. OBJECTIVES

- a. Increase ~~the~~ milk production per cow herd.
- b. Encourage the use of more succulent feeds.
- c. Increase the DHIA herd numbers.
- d. Have more dairymen to use the artificial breeding service.
- e. Increase the Grade "A" dairy herds.

4. GOALS

- a. Increase the milk production per cow by 200 pounds.
- b. Have 3 Grade "B" dairymen to sell Grade "A" milk.

- h. Increase the improved pasture acreage so that 2 acres per animal unit will suffice for the present 4.3 acres.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. Continue to emphasize the value of alfalfa production in order that cattle will consume better feed.
- b. Hold demonstrations on the control of wild onions and other weeds.
- c. Provide all growers of corn, small grain, and forage with a list of the recommended varieties.
- d. Have all pertinent information before making a fertilizer or lime recommendation on a soil-test result.
- e. Conduct a corn variety demonstration with a TVA Pilot Demonstrator.
- f. Use the TVA Pilot Demonstrators in furthering the promotion of recommended crop varieties.
- g. Emphasize the important of good pasture management.
- h. Use all ~~m~~ types of mass media to impart research information to the farmers and conduct field tours to show results.

III.

DAIRYING

Committee:

Frank Bruce,
W. L. Dickenson
John Gates
Robert Schmidt

1. SITUATION AND TRENDS

- a. There are 48 Grade "A" milk producers, milking more than 2800 cows.
- b. The Grade "B" producers total more than 25, and milk over 300 cows. Some 25 producers ship cream.
- c. There are 9 dairymen using DHIA.
- d. Fifteen herds are breeding artificially and some farmers with one or more cows, through the Nottoway and Charlotte Association.

- c. Weeds and insects in forage crops, and weeds in small grains.
- d. Incomplete soil test and the use of ACP finance.
- e. The improper use of lush pastures in the late spring.
- f. The low phosphate content in soil test results.
- g. Depending on lespedeza for a winter hay supply.

3. OBJECTIVES

- A. Encourage all farmers to conserve their excess late spring pasture for hay supply.
- b. Help farmers to realize that high yields and less acres are more important than large acreages.
- c. Have all farmers to control insects and weeds in their forage programs.
- d. Keep the farmers informed on the recommended varieties of grain and forage crop seed.
- e. Encourage the proper harvesting and storage of all crops.
- f. Encourage farmers to raise sufficient quantities of feed to meet the demands of their livestock and reduce farm cost.

4. GOALS

- a. Reduce the risk in winter hay supply by producing more alfalfa, clover and using excess permanent pasture for hay.
- b. Increase the acreage of silage by 100 acres.
- c. Have more farmers to use the proper chemicals in controlling insects and weeds in forage crops.
- d. Inform all farmers of the value gained in rotating pastures.
- e. Increase the number of soil tests for pastures and rotations by 200.
- f. Promote the use of supplementary pastures.
- g. Increase the acreage of oats and barley, with less dependence on corn.

- h. Send tobacco research information to fertilizer dealers, local merchants, and other agricultural workers.
- i. Send a tobacco variety list to all tobacco growers.
- j. Assist with the demonstration on the various stages in pulling dark-fired tobacco.
- k. Hold local field meeting where demonstrations are conducted.
- l. Use all types of mass media to impart tobacco research information, such as radio, bulletins, newspaper, circular letters. Also use the services of tobacco specialist, and do personal farm visitation.

C. Grain and Forage Crops

1. SITUATION

- a. In normal seasons, the farmers make sufficient hay to feed their livestock.
- b. 1285 acres of cropland placed in the Conservation Reserve program will be put in permanent grass and legume cover.
- c. Corn and wheat produced in excess of farm use are sold out of the area.
- d. Oats and barley acreages have been increasing in recent years.
- e. There are some 30,000 acres of pastures, but only 9,000 acres is pasture with seeded stands of grasses, clovers and lespedeza.
- f. Alfalfa is becoming more important on individual farms. Red clover is increasing in acreage.
- g. The baling of hay is the most common method of harvesting. There are some hay curing units.

2. PROBLEMS

- a. High crop yields are sacrificed for more acreage and low yield.
- b. Improper rotation of pastures to gain the maximum benefits from seed and fertilizer.

- b. Have more farmers to use chemicals to control root-knot in tobacco.
- c. Increase the yields in all types of tobacco by 100 pounds.
- d. Acquaint 300 farmers with the improved and recommended chemicals for insect control.
- e. Have 100 farmers to lime their flue-tobacco soils at the proper time.
- f. Carry on weed control demonstration for tobacco plant beds in the early fall.
- g. Visit at least 200 farmers during the growing season to examine their tobacco, to aid in quality and yield.
- h. Increase soil testing of tobacco soils by 200 additional samples.
- i. Work with the Extension tobacco specialist to have sufficient supply of certified tobacco seed.
- j. Inform tobacco growers of Experimental tobacco field days at Chatham and Charlotte Court House.
- k. Hold a county-wide tobacco meeting in the fall.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. Have 2 demonstrations on Virginia 12 flue tobacco variety.
- b. Inform all tobacco growers by circular letter and radio the proper time to take tobacco soil sample.
- c. Have twenty or more farmers to attend the tobacco field days at the Experiment Stations.
- d. Hold a county-wide tobacco meeting in the fall, to cover many phases of tobacco.
- e. Have one farmer to conduct a demonstration on black-shank in dark-fired tobacco.
- f. Assist one farmer with his dark-fired variety test demonstrations; work with Dr. Henderson of V.P.I. on this experiment.
- g. Work with Charlotte Experiment Station on the black-shank plots of dark-fired tobacco conducted in this county.

- f. The small acreage allotments in all types of tobacco has caused the farmer to add one or more major enterprises.

2. PROBLEMS

- A. The marketing procedure in all types of tobacco, as to grading and selling.
- b. More and more farms are troubles with rootknot in all types of tobacco.
- c. Insects are a problem in plant bed and field.
- d. The rotation of flue cured tobacco.
- e. The proper fertilizer analysis to use in plant beds and in the field.
- f. Soil samples are not taken in sufficient time to use the results to their best advantage.
- g. Producing the proper variety of sun-cured and Maryland tobacco.
- h. The insufficient supply of recommended certified dark-fired tobacco seed.
- i. Black-shank in the dark-fired tobacco type.

3. OBJECTIVES

- A. Encourage farmers to improve their quality in all types of tobacco.
- b. Explore the possibilities of improved marketing conditions.
- c. Encourage farmers to use the recommended chemicals for rootknot control and insects.
- d. Encourage farmers to improve the condition of their tobacco soils for better tobacco.
- e. Have tobacco demonstrations that will encourage the farmer to accept good practices.

4. GOALS

- a. Talk to the local tobacco warehouse owners about grading and selling tobacco.

The Main Sources of Agricultural Income Are:

Tobacco (Bright, Fire-Cured, Burley, Sun and Maryland)
Dairying
Timber products
Beef cattle and other livestock
Orchards (apple and peach)
Poultry

II. AGRONOMY

Committee:

B. M. Cunningham, Chairman
B. C. Bass
T. C. Hix
Charles Owen
J. A. Hines
C. W. Dickhoff

- A. Thirty-one farms were placed in the 1959 Conservation Reserve Program, and parts of two farms: a total of 1585 acres of cropland.
- B. Tobacco (Flue, Dark-fired, Burley, Sun and Maryland)

1. SITUATION AND TRENDS

- a. The allotted acreage of each type:
- | | |
|--------------|-----|
| Flue..... | 828 |
| Dark-fired.. | 990 |
| Burley..... | 49 |
- (Sun-cured and Maryland.... minor)
- b. There are 467 farms with flue, 763 with fire-cured and 100 with burley.
- c. The average acreage per farm as to type is as follows:
- | | |
|--------------|------|
| Flue..... | 1.8 |
| Dark-fired.. | 1.3 |
| Burley..... | 0.49 |
- (Sun-cured and Maryland.... minor)
- d. The Conservation Reserve Program removed from production 10.81 acres of flue-cured, 34.44 acres of dark-fired, and 1 acre of burley tobacco.
- e. The flue-cured tobacco growers are the only operators that attempt to have one major enterprise on their farms; however, these farm operators are few in number.

I.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Prince Edward County is an average size Virginia county. It is located in the South-Central Piedmont Area, with a population about 15,000. Fifty-eight percent of population is white and 42% non-white. The topography is rolling. The average rainfall is around 43 inches and there are approximately 180 days growing season. The farm population is decreasing, but the urban part is increasing slowly.

There are 1179 farm operators in the county, of which 669 are white. The area of the county is 228,480 acres.

Cropland and pasture make up about three-fifths of the land area.

Farmville is the county seat; and the villages of Rice, Worsham, Darlington Heights, Prospect, and Pamplin serve the county with general stores and post offices.

Hampden-Sydney College for men and Longwood College for women, two of the oldest colleges in the state, are located in the county.

There are three banks to serve the county, located in Farmville. The county is served by two railroads and two main highways; the highways are Routes 15 and 460. It has several small manufacturers, an egg grading and marketing warehouse, and dark tobacco warehouses.

Furthermore, it is blessed in having the Southside Community Hospital located in Farmville.

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PLAN OF WORK

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for Dudley L. Peery, County Agent
and
G. D. Gilliam, Assistant County Agent

PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY

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1959