

1959 PLAN OF WORK

For

KING AND QUEEN COUNTY

by

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I. GENERAL COUNTY SITUATION

King and Queen is a rural county located on the northeast bank of the Mattaponi River. The county is 66 miles long with an average width of only 8 miles.

The total population of the county in 1950 was 6,299 of which 46% is white. During the past 20 years there has been a decrease in population of 1319.

The 1954 census indicates 764 farms, 424 of which are listed as being operated or owned by white farmers. The county agent's mailing list numbers about 240 active farmers. The total land area of the county is 203,520 acres 43% of which is in farms. In 1954, 702 farms reported harvesting a total of 24,235 acres.

About 77.2% of the total land area is in forest or 156,000 acres. There are many small sawmills and pulpwood cutting units. A large paper mill at West Point offers employment and purchases a considerable amount of pulpwood from King and Queen County landowners. The only industry in the county in addition to sawmills is a vegetable cannery located at Walkerton.

The size of farms by gross sales is as follows:

\$25,000 or more	1
10,000 - 24,999	13
5,000 - 9,999	50
2,500 - 4,999	31
1,200 - 2,499	100
250 - 1,199	85
0 - 1,100	491

Value of different farm products sold:

Crops

Corn	\$231,723
Wheat	113,910
Soybeans	308,560
Vegetables	113,654
Sweet Potatoes	23,069
Tobacco	30,720

Livestock

Dairy Products	119,123
Poultry Products	65,369
Livestock, other than dairy and poultry	179,483

II. COUNTY ORGANIZATION

Following is a list of the county organizations with which the county agent has cooperated in furthering the Extension Program:

County Board of Agriculture
Farm and Home Advisory Committee
Tidewater Guernsey Breeders Association
Tidewater Dairy Herd Improvement Association
Tidewater Milk Producers Association
Tidewater Soil Conservation District
King and Queen ASC County Committee
King and Queen Farm Bureau
Marriott Young Farmers Club
King and Queen Forestry Club
Norfolk Area Milk Producers Association

III. Major Projects

Farm and Home Development

A. Situation

1. The Extension Staff is entering its fifth year of Farm and Home Development work.
2. This phase of the Extension program has been accepted by the people.
3. Approximately 25 families were worked with during 1958.
4. There are still approximately 20 families on the selected list that have not been worked with.

B. Goals

1. Inform the county population of this phase of the Extension program.
2. Work intensively with 25 families during 1959.
3. Establish efficient method of providing technical data and Specialist aid to any family in the county.
4. Increase the use of farm record books.

C. Methods

1. a. Continue to use committee composed of one representative from each county organization.
b. Use of standard publicity media.
2. a. Continue methods used in previous years.
b. Hold regular monthly meetings of Extension staff.
3. a. Hold Field Day tour of selected farms.
b. Planning and conduct of Field Day to be cooperative effort of all agencies working in county.
c. Emphasis to be on methods of increasing income and assistance available through VPI Extension.
d. Secure Specialist aid in developing alternates for Farm selected.
4. a. Publicize area meetings where Specialist are scheduled. (Livestock School, Agronomy School, Warsaw Station Field Day)
b. Secure Specialist aid for local meetings when their itinerary permits and the situation justifies it.
c. Coordinate requests for technical data from farm families to Forestry Service and Soil Conservation Service.
d. Maintain up to date files of publications from VPI and USDA in Extension office.
5. Distribute Virginia Farm record books and instruct farmers in their use during farm visits.

III. MAJOR PROJECTS

Dairying

A. Situation

1. The sale of whole milk has doubled during the past 5 years.
2. Dairy cow population has increased about 200 during the same period. (Seven grad A dairy farms in county)
3. The average production sold per cow is less than one gallon per day. (county average)
4. Approximately 10 farmers in King and Queen County are raising replacement heifers.

B. Goals

1. Improve Herd production average.
2. Increase effectiveness of breeding program.
3. Continue effective Bangs Control Program.
4. Conduct pasture tour to emphasize 12 month feed program.
5. Encourage 2 dairymen to initiate system of production record keeping.

C. Methods

1. Hold two county meetings for dairymen during year on management and feeding.
2. Continue to line up calves throughout county every $3\frac{1}{2}$ months for Bangs vaccination and testing tour.
3. a. Participate in area pasture tour to be conducted in April.
b. Hold local pasture clinic during late summer with special emphasis on 12 month feed program.
c. Encourage attendance at Warsaw Field Days.
4. Explain to dairymen the value of production records and the different plans for securing the same.

III. MAJOR PROJECTS

Livestock

A. Situation

According to the 1954 Census Report there were a total of 1900 beef cattle, 5,200 hogs and pigs on 645 farms in the county, 230 sheep and lambs on 9 farms, and 1300 milk cows on 496 farms. King and Queen County has an average hog population of 6 per farm, beef cattle population of 2 per farm, Milk cow population of 1.8, and sheep population of .27. (Sheep and hog numbers have increased during the past year to some extent) Approximately 17% of the cropland is in permanent pasture.

B. Goals

1. Increase quality and quantity of livestock per farm.
2. Have more farmers balance their farming operations by the addition of livestock into their total farm program.
3. Secure feeding and management of livestock during the winter feeding period on 5 farms.
4. Initiate control of internal and external parasites on 10 farms.
5. Develop more and better pastures as a high quality cheap feed for livestock.
6. Develop better breeding stock in the county through use of purebred animals selected from 4-H Pig Projects.
7. Increase the acreage of supplementary pasture such as Sudan and Millet.
8. Twenty farmers to sell feeder pigs in organized market.

C. Methods

1. Advertise Extension sponsored livestock schools in the area.
2. Urge adult farmers to give active support to the 4-H purebred pig club. There are two purebred breeds of swine in the county at present, both initiated through 4-H pig projects. Hampshire and Duroc Breeds are represented and farmers may obtain breeding stock with which to cross their present stock for market hogs or they have an opportunity to go into the purebred business.

3. Demonstrate effective disease and parasite control measures. This will be done on an individual basis until a better organization will permit it on a group basis. The veterinarians' reports will be analysed by the county agent and important items brought to the attention of livestock farmers. The same calfhood vaccination program for Bangs control will be carried out with beef calves as was mentioned with dairy.
4. The county agent will work with the Soil Conservation Service Technician in developing farm plans to include livestock. Through circular letters, the county agent will continually stress timely tips for better feeding and management practices. Also notice will be given of all sales and other general activities of a livestock nature occurring in this area.
5. Feeding of a balanced ration, including minerals, will be stressed in the proper feeding of livestock during the winter period.
6. An effort will be made to increase the number of sheep on farms where pasture and feed justify the addition of more livestock.
7. Approximately 76% of the farmers in the county now vaccinate for cholera.
8. Plan tour of successful livestock operations.
9. Maintain organization of hog raisers.
10. Encourage sale of feeder cattle through the Richmond sale.
11. Encourage the construction of corrals and handling chutes.

III. MAJOR PROJECTS

Poultry

A. Situation

In 1950, 371 farms reported selling chickens, whereas, in 1954 only 161 farms sold chickens. Similarly in 1949, 623 farms reported selling eggs and in 1954 only 358 farms were selling eggs. During certain seasons of the year King and Queen has to import eggs to meet its own needs.

B. Goals

1. Get 10 farmers to increase size of laying hen enterprise.
2. Improve quality of eggs offered for sale from every poultry farm.
3. Improve market for King and Queen produced eggs.
4. Initiate record system for 50% of laying flocks.

C. Methods

1.
 - a. Present to individual farmers research information, concerning cost and returns per bird in laying flocks of different sizes.
 - b. Discuss advantages of marketing with more volume.
 - c. Point out advantages of fully utilizing all family resources.
2.
 - a. Impress on all poultry farmers the steps necessary to maintain the quality of eggs.
 - b. Assist farmers in planning and building egg handling equipment.
3.
 - a. Encourage uniform quality and production of eggs.
 - b. Assist farmers in locating desirable egg customers.
 - c. Maintain contact with Chambers of Commerce, Marketing Committees and Market Expansion Division of State Department of Agriculture.

4. a. Establish record keeping as one basic requirement of successful egg production. (Meetings and individual contact)
- b. Secure suitable record book and go over it with farmer and family.
- c. Explain uses to be made of information obtained from record keeping.
5. Two tours to varied poultry operations.
6. Hold county poultry school.

III. MAJOR PROJECT

Forestry

A. Situation

The total area of King and Queen is 209,000 acres of which 156,000 is woodland. About 77% of the land in King and Queen is woodland, all privately owned.

Standing saw timber in King and Queen County:

256 million board feet of pine
65 million board feet of gum, popular and soft maple
202 million board feet of oak, hickory and beach.

Total of all standing saw timber as of 1956 was 523 million board feet.

Saw timber being cut annually:

13 million feet of pine
10 million feet of hardwood
23 million feet cut yearly

One million 72 thousand cords of pine pulpwood growing in King and Queen.

42 thousand cords of pulpwood are being cut per year in King and Queen.

King and Queen was top county in the Tidewater area in setting pine seedlings for 1957 - 1958, over 3/4 million pine seedlings.

King and Queen is also one of the leading seed cone producers for the Tidewater area.

The value of all timber, pulpwood and posts sold equals the total of crops and livestock sold in the county each year.

In order to continue the sale of forest products, to improve, maintain and increase the diminishing forestry resources of the county, a Forestry Club was organized in 1956.

B. Methods

1. Demonstration areas have been set up at different locations in the county on; thinning of pulpwood, chemical killing of undesirable hardwoods followed by planting and bulldozing and planting.
2. Encourage farmers to take advantage of the cost-share practices provided under the ASC Program which will now pay up to 80% of cost in forestry practices.
3. 4-H members can obtain 500 pine seedlings free from the Virginia Forestry Service.
4. Hold the Annual Forestry Club Banquet and Recognition night in October.
5. Hold two Forestry Club committee meetings during the year.
6. Extension agents will work closely with Virginia Division of Forestry and Chesapeake Corporation to provide the needed service and information.
7. Hold a Forestry Tour in the summer.
8. Hold Forestry Field Day in cooperation with Chesapeake Corporation.

C. Goals

1. To have 15 4-H Club members set out 6,200 loblolly pine seedlings.
2. Increase the King and Queen senior Forestry Club membership from 25 to 35 members.
3. Increase the King and Queen junior Forestry Club members from 5 to 15 members.
4. To set out 1,000,000 pine seedlings as a county objective.
5. To bulldoze 300 acres of woodland for tree planting.
6. To increase the number of acres of thinning of young fast growing pine stands.
7. To increase the number of acres of chemical killing of undesirable hardwoods followed by spot planting.

III. MAJOR PROJECT

Agronomy

A. Situation

Wheat, corn, soybeans, tobacco and vegetables are produced commercially in King and Queen County. Production of sun-cured tobacco is confined to the northwestern end of the county. Farmers in the northern end raise tomatoes, corn beans and sweet potatoes for the Richmond market. Those in the southeastern portion market most of their vegetables in West Point. Wheat, corn and soybeans are produced commercially in all parts of the county.

B. Methods

1. Encourage farmers to use the service of the Soil Conservation Service technician in planning practices which will result in better land use and conservation.
2. Encourage farmers to take advantage of the assistance offered by the ACP in establishing winter and permanent cover crops.
3. Publicize the slogan "Every acre green by Christmas 1959."
4. Encourage farmers to take soil samples and assist them in planning fertilizer programs for the farm or rotation.
5. Hold series of demonstration on top-dressing small grains.
6. Distribute information on the control of wild garlic in small grains.
7. Encourage farmers to cooperate with the Hanover Vegetable Growers Association.
8. Assist farmers in planning to use the Richmond Wholesale Market.
9. Assist individual growers in controlling insects and diseases of vegetables.
10. Send circular letters on proper lime and fertilizer practices for rotation containing soybeans.

11. Encourage winter cover crops and utilization of crop residues to increase organic matter.

12. Encourage the use of high-potash fertilizers.

C. Goals

1. Increase the use of cover crops on 25 farms.
2. Take soil samples and plan fertilizer program on 25 farms.
3. Five farmers to control garlic in wheat by spraying.
4. 15 farmers to increase income from vegetables through the use of standard packages. Marketing only quality produce and by using a complete spray program.
5. 30 farmers to top-dress small grains. 15 farmers to use liquid nitrogen this year.

III. MAJOR PROJECT

4-H Club Work

A. Situation

There are approximately 180 boys in the county of 4-H Club age. The 4-H enrollment at the beginning of the year was 68. We have to hold our meetings at school during the activity period and other activities keep the older boys from attending. If the meetings are held out of school hours, the attendance is very poor because of the length of the county.

King and Queen County is long and narrow, rather thinly settled, which makes it difficult to organize into community groups.

More cooperation could and should be exercised to better 4-H Club and FFA work at one of the county high schools.

B. Goals

1. To develop a 4-H program that will be of value and interest to all members.
2. To have 15 4-H Club members set out 6,200 pine seedlings.
3. To have two 4-H County Council meetings during the year.
4. To average 7 pigs per litter in the 4-H Sears Pig Chain Program.
5. To hold "Share-the-Fun Program."
6. To observe Rural Life Sunday.
7. To have County Achievement Day in the Fall.
8. To have 15 boys attend 4-H Camp at Jamestown.
9. To have 85% completion of all projects.
10. To have one boy enter District Junior Public Speaking Contest
11. To have one boy attend 4-H Short Course.
12. To have three 4-H members enter their 4-H dairy cows at the State Fair in Richmond.

C. Methods

1. To cooperate and work with the two high schools in the county in organizing and conducting 4-H Club meetings within the school hours.
2. Secure and train adult leaders to help with the program.
3. Provide leadership training and stress parliamentary procedure in all 4-H meetings.
4. Officers and leaders of all clubs will make up the 4-H County Council to help plan 4-H programs and objectives for the county as a whole.
5. Continue Sears Pig Project in the County.
6. Stress tree planting as a project and encourage boys to take advantage of trees offered them through the Forest Service.
7. Publicize outstanding accomplishments of present members and encourage them to help enroll other members.
8. Secure the cooperation and help of the rural ministers in the county in conducting Rural Life Sunday.
9. Secure the help of local merchants and business men in the county in providing prizes for winners in the 4-H "Share-the-Fun" Program.
10. Recognize and honor 4-H members who have done outstanding work during the year at a county Achievement Day Program.
11. Encourage members to attend Jamestown 4-H Club camp as a means of providing recreational and leadership training.
12. Publicize leadership training camp and encourage older youth to attend.

IV. MINOR PROJECTS

Orchard and Small Fruits

A. Situation

There is one commercial peach orchard in King and Queen. Most farms have a few trees and several farmers grow berries for the local markets.

B. Goals

1. Increase the income from peaches on one farm.
- 2 Six farmers to plant Pocahontas strawberries.

C. Methods

1. Encourage attendance at regional fruit school.
2. Give individual assistance in management, spraying and marketing the peach crop.
3. Encourage the use of improved varieties of berries.
4. Assist farmers in cultural practices.

Home Garden

A. Situation

Farmers have allowed their interest in home gardens to lag since horses have become scarce.

B. Goals

1. Increase the number of fall gardens in King and Queen.
2. Encourage the use of new vegetables and new varieties.

C. Methods

1. Send monthly garden letter.
2. Encourage 4-H garden club members to plan year-round gardens.
3. Discuss the importance of good home gardens in farm visits.

CALENDAR

January	February	March
Farm and Home Dev. Individual visits	Farm and Home Dev. visits	Farm and Home Dev. visits
Meetings - Income tax Farm records	4-H Contests	Vegetable Growers meeting
4-H Achievement Day	DHIA meeting	Livestock Cattle Tour
4-H Club meetings	Poultry School	Bangs Clinic School
Forestry visits	4-H Club meetings	4-H Club meetings
Radio	Purebred Hog Sale	4-H County Council
News Articles	Bangs Tour	Forestry visits
	Forestry Club meeting	Hog Growers organiza- tion
	Radio	Radio
	News articles	News articles
April	May	June
Farm and Home Dev. visits	Farm and Home Dev. visits	Farm and Home Dev. visits
Vegetable Growers meeting	Hog Growers meeting	Feeder Pig Sale
Hog Growers meeting	4-H meetings	4-H Short Course
Corn Production meeting	4-H Contests	4-H Picnic
4-H Club meetings	Pasture Tour	Radio
Forestry Field Day	Insect Control demonstration	News articles
Alfalfa weevil demonstration	Sheep shearing and parasite control	
Radio	Radio	
News article	News article	

CALENDAR

July	August	September
Farm and Home Dev. visits	Farm and Home Dev. visits	Farm and Home Dev. visits
Bangs Clinics	4-H Camp	Organize 4-H Clubs
Forestry - Tree killing	Extension Conference	Cover crop follow up
Institute of Rural Affairs	Cover Crop Campaign	Hog Growers meeting
Poultry disease control demonstration	Purebred Hoge Sale	Fair Exhibits
Radio	Hog Growers meeting	Radio
News articles	Forestry Club meeting	News articles
	Radio	
	News articles	
October	November	December
Farm and Home Dev. visits	Farm and Home Dev. visits	Farm and Dev. visits
4-H Club meetings	Bangs Clinic	Planning and Program development
Feeder Pig Sale	Annual Report	Outlook meetings
Forestry Club meetings	4-H Club meetings	4-H Achievement Day
Radio	Forestry Demonstration	4-H Club meetings
News articles	Radio	Radio
	News articles	News articles