

VIII. 4-H CLUBS - Mr. Jack Tyree, Associate 4-H Club Agent, attended Achievement Day program on November 13, 1954, and organized Adult Leaders, after giving them an hour of training.

A. Goal - Strengthen the organization

- ⊙ B. Methods -
1. Develop more leadership by instructive information
  2. Endeavor to make 4-H Club Council more active
  3. Organiza 4-H All-Stars
  4. Hold annual Achievement and Rally Day Programs and 4-H Club Camp
  5. Increase club enrollment to 1000 or more if possible
  6. Decrease number of projects carried by each club member and strive to
  7. Increase project completions by giving classroom instructions on projects and conducting summer work day instructions for individual projects.
  8. Stress improved exhibits for county and community fairs.

IX. T. V. A. WORK - Reorganize Unit Demonstrators.

X. COUNTY PROFESSIONAL WORKERS COUNCIL -

⊙ A. Goal - Better Rural Living

B. Method - Reorganize council to be of more assistance to each organization and to the people of the county

XI. FARM AND HOME DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM -

A. Goals -

1. County plans are not complete on this new program. The county farm and home agents have planned to expand this program as new farm and home owners can be contacted.
- ⊙

The agents will complete at least three development programs in 1955

B. Methods -

The agents plan to contact farm and home owners and explain the program. As home owners show interest and a desire to cooperate, plans will proceed. It is the thinking of the agents that the program will develop slowly, due to county conditions.

2. Contact Appalachian Electric Power Company representatives and veterans' agricultural instructors to work on a survey of farm water systems.
3. Stress adequate water supply by contact meetings, and
4. Help in installing water systems.

VI. REFORESTATION AND GAME CONSERVATION -

- A. Goal - Reforestation of unproductive hillsides, making them havens for game, and preventing erosion.
- B. Methods -
  1. Locate and set aside forestry demonstration plots in Dickenson County in 1955.
  2. Encourage setting of more seedlings yearly
  3. Hold selective cutting and measuring demonstrations
  4. Secure information for farmers on proper cutting and handling of woodlands
  5. Be active in county game clubs and abide by game laws, encouraging others to do likewise
  6. Cooperate with county forestry committee on goals and achievements for Dickenson County

VII. RURAL YOUTH, VETERANS, AND F. F. A. GROUPS.

- A. Goal - Better Rural Life for Dickenson County
- B. Methods -
  1. Meet with community improvement clubs in 1955.
  2. Give more time to Veterans clubs and F. F. A. boys by more on-the-farm contacts with their instructors, by visiting class rooms and presenting more agricultural information to these young farmers.
  3. Attend all meetings of young farmers' clubs and cooperate fully.
  4. Stress improved exhibits at county and community fairs.

III. HORTICULTURE - Fruit Growers meeting to be held at Wise on February 15, 1955. County Fruit Growers to attend.

County meeting to be held on Small Fruits on March 11, 1955. Suggested changes at that meeting will be added to the plan of work later.

- A. Goal - Secure all available information to help Dickenson County farmers grow more marketable products on their tillable land.
- B. Methods - Hold county meetings to contact more gardeners and have them increase the production of small fruits and vegetables (both summer and fall gardens) to supply the market in nearby coal fields, by
  - 1. Help of Extension Specialists
  - 2. Use of reliable certified seed and plants
  - 4. Encouraging more fertilization and a complete spray program as recommended by Experiment Station bulletins and Specialists.

IV. LIVESTOCK -

- A. Goal - More high grade livestock, including high production cows, on the home farm.
- B. Methods - Encourage farmers to
  - 1. Cull and sell low producers
  - 2. Use registered sires, dairy and beef
  - 3. Improve grazing and feeding methods, sanitation and housing, by availing themselves of timely information through bulletins
  - 4. Treat animals for parasites and disease
  - 5. Dehorn more calves
  - 6. Dock and castrate lambs, castrate more bull calves
  - 7. Participate in field meetings and farm tours.
  - 8. Continue poultry judging with 4-H Club boys.

V. RURAL ELECTRIFICATION -

- A. Goal - Rural families utilize available electricity to the maximum
- B. Method - 1. Continue electrification projects in 4-H Clubs, cooperating with A. E. P. Company representatives, and getting a power company representative to attend 4-H summer camp.

B. Small Grains and Cover Crops.

1. Goal - Strive to increase plantings of small grains, both for harvest and for cover crops, using certified seed. Follow all cultivated crops with cover crops.
2. Methods -
  - a. Use of county and community committeemen
  - b. Use members of county board of agriculture as field men
  - c. Encourage demonstrations
  - d. Educational activities -
    1. Supply farmers with recommendations
    2. Make personal contacts
    4. Enlist aid of the press
    5. Hold farm meetings to educate as to use of cover crops
    6. Use help of Extension Specialists

C. Hay and Pasture -

1. Goal - Increased acreage of alfalfa with better treatment of old stands plus the seeding of more pasture as stated under A. S.C. with regard to alfalfa and pasture work.
2. Methods -
  - a. Publicize with timely articles the use and advantage of alfalfa as a hay crop with recommendations as to variety of seed, inoculation, lime, fertilization, etc., necessary for a successful crop.
  - b. Educational activities by personal contacts, bulletins, help of specialists, field meetings, farm tours and radio programs.

D. Field Crops -

1. Goal - Encourage the use of certified seed potatoes and adapted varieties, tomatoes and all other crops, plus proper spraying and cultivation, together with timely and proper harvesting and storage.
2. Methods - Personal contacts, bulletins, community and field meetings, demonstrations, and tours.

2. More use of community committeemen
4. Increased educational activities with
  - a. Special emphasis on farm tours by districts
  - b. Increased publicity by means of county paper and radio
5. Stress Importance of Conservation by
  - a. Press, Radio and Personal Contacts
  - b. Cooperate with S. C. S. Fully to strengthen the program in the county.
  - c. Agent being secretary to Soil Conservation District will publicise all conservation as timely as possible
  - d. Cooperate with A. S. C. to help get bids for highest grade fertilizer material at lowest cost.
  - e. Contact dealers for fair price list.
  - f. Prepare to do business with dealer who can handle material at best price
  - g. Receive material when farmers can use it as nearly as possible.
  - h. Encourage farmers to cooperate with 1955 A. S. C. pasture program
    - i. Help them locate most desirable pasture fields.
    - j. Encourage them to buy, from cheapest and best source, certified seed and good high analysis fertilizer
    - k. Encourage them to make more soil tests for liming purposes, and to use lime as indicated by test.
    - l. Stress the use of more high analysis fertilizers.
    - m. Stress treatment of old stands of pasture grass
    - n. Place special emphasis on more pasture tours.
    - o. Secure the advice of pasture specialists, and act on same.
    - p. Use radio as means of contacting farmers

II. AGRONOMY - The Agronomy Committee met January 19, 1955, and revised its plan for 1955

A. Corn.

1. Goal - Strive to hold 80% of farmers to the growing of hybrid corn by
  - a. Stressing use of recommended hybrids
  - b. Planting to have about 14,000 stalks to the acre
  - c. Encouraging the use of more high analysis fertilizer
  - d. Promoting educational activities through
    1. Use of ~~educational activities through~~ experimental data on varieties recommended
    2. Special emphasis on field meetings at demonstrations
    3. Publicity - press and radio - supplying adequate information to be relayed to farmers
    4. Community meetings and use of specialists
    5. Sending out to farmers information on proper fertilization and crop varieties

Dickenson County Agricultural Planning Board

1955

Objectives set up February 11, 1955

Fred M. Fletcher, County Agent

Members Board of Agriculture

L. F. Newberry	E. C. Smith
N. E. Hughes	T. P. Bise
W. B. Trivitt	John W. Chase
W. J. Yates	J. H. T. Sutherland
Ralph Vanover	F. L. Colley
Holiday McFall	D. A. Deel
Corbett Mullins	Erdman Mullins
Auty Phipps	Fred H. Stanley
Chas. D. Baker	Woodrow Mullins
Otto Kendrick	Steve Rose
W. E. Mullins	H. M. Sutherland
R. L. Duty	Mrs. Zona S. Powers
Mrs. Christine Carpenter	Mrs. Billie R. Skeen
Mrs. E. J. Sutherland	Lonnie Thomas

Due to county conditions all commodity groups could not meet as a unit before the plan of work was made. Therefore, the 1955 agricultural planning for Dickenson County was handled somewhat differently than in past years. Some of the groups met separately, as shown in the plan of work; others have not met, as is also shown, but will hold meetings later. If changes are decided upon at such meetings, the plan of work will be amended or revised according to suggestions.

The following goals, methods and educational activities have been set up:

I. SOIL CONSERVATION AND A. S. C. PROGRAM:

There are 1951 farms in Dickenson County at the present time. Approximately 30% of the farmers are taking advantage of the program in the use of lime and phosphate, grass seeding and conservation practices.

A. Goal - Better Land Use.

B. Methods -

1. More personal contacts with full explanation of 1955 program.

A PLAN OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION COUNTY AGENT'S WORK

for

DICKENSON COUNTY

from

January 1, 1955, to December 31, 1955

Fred N. Fletcher, County Agent  
Clintwood, Virginia