

This group was worked with very closely in conducting this fair. The American Legion Post sponsored the Tazewell County Agricultural Fair and the Extension staff worked closely with this group in sponsoring this event.

XI. EVALUATION OF YEAR'S WORK

We, the Extension staff, feel that we have had a busy and successful year in Tazewell County. Some of our goals have not been accomplished to the degree of perfection that we had planned for but this will give us more reason to work harder in the coming year. We have completed some projects and activities that have arisen during the year which will give us experience in the future.

We would like to thank the various agencies who have assisted us with our different program. Without their cooperation our success would not have been as favorable.

Since this Extension year will soon be history, now we can plan for the future and hope to receive the same enthusiasm and cooperation from all agencies and services as we have in the past. Through this we hope to improve and further the Extension program in Tazewell County so that this county will be a better place in which to live.

IX. OTHER ACTIVITIES

A. Farmers' Income Tax Meeting

A farmers' income tax meeting, including information on Social Security, was held in cooperation with Mr. W. J. Nuckolls, Extension Economist, with 18 people attending and gaining some good information.

B. Feed Mill Demonstration

A demonstration of a small portable electric feed mill was held in cooperation with the Appalachian Power Company in February, 1959.

X. COOPERATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES

The county agent serves as an ex-officio member of the ASC Committee and attended the regular and special meetings whenever possible. The cooperation between agencies results in a greater participation in all programs in the county.

The county agent is also a member of the Tasewell Soil Conservation District Board of Supervisors. Some time has been spent working with this organization during the year.

All the agricultural agencies are located adjacent to each other in the same office building, which makes for a good working relation and also increased participation from farmers in the county in all programs.

The banks and civic organizations have been very cooperative in sponsoring different projects in the county. The county banks sent the county agent to the Farm Credit Conference at Natural Bridge this year.

The Richlands Fair and Stock Show was sponsored by the Richlands Businessmen's Association primarily in the interest of 4-H club work.

3. 4-H Lamb Show and Sale

The annual 4-H Lamb Show and Sale was held at the Tazewell Livestock Market on June 15. Forty-eight lambs were exhibited by club members enrolled in the ewe flock project. The project, combined with the Show and Sale, is one of the more practical projects and has encouraged better management practices.

4. 4-H Market Lamb Project

Two pens of 4-H market lambs were fed this year. Their owners exhibited these Southdown lambs at the Tazewell, Bland and Russell county fairs. A pen fed by Tommy Mustard, Tazewell, was Champion Pen at the Russell Fair and placed second in the Southdown class at the Atlantic Rural Exposition. The other pen fed by Ronnie Neel, Clear Fork, placed third at the Atlantic Rural Exposition.

5. 4-H Electric Project

Three all-day training meetings were held in different locations in the county for members enrolled in the electric project. The meetings were conducted by the local Appalachian Power Company representatives with the assistance of the county Extension personnel. The project was concluded by a tour of the Carbo Plant in Russell County with 49 members participating.

Three 4-H members and the assistant county agent participated in the State 4-H Electric Congress held in Richmond during August. Clyde Barrett, Bandy, was honored as a District winner in the Electric project.

14. 4-H Achievement Records

Miss Evelyn Barker, Associate State 4-H Club Agent, spoke to a group of 4-H members and leaders on March 2, on "Assembling 4-H Achievement Records." Thirty-four members and leaders were present. It is felt that a great deal of enthusiasm and information was received by all members present.

Three 4-H club boys entered records in the District and State competition.

C. Project Work

1. General Project Information

The 527 club boys carried a total of 626 projects. The projects included field crops, forestry, garden, beef cattle, dairy cattle, hogs, sheep, poultry, electric, safety and health.

Boys enrolled in the tree planting project planted 14,500 white pine trees, 1,500 Virginia pine trees and 500 poplar trees.

2. Sears Pig Chain Project

The Sears Pig Chain project was established with Hampshires in 1957 in the Clear Fork community, moved to the Thompson Valley community in 1958, and established in the Freestone Valley community this past year. This project has created a great deal of interest and enthusiasm among the members participating. It has also provided a source of registered breeding stock for the county farmers. Two of the boys in the chain have raised swine to enter in the State sponsored Purebred Swine Breeders' Association sales.

10. 4-H "Share the Fun" Contest

Variety acts were selected from 4-H clubs throughout the county during the month of March. Thirty-seven clubs were represented in the county "Share the Fun" contest held in April at the Tasewell High School. Lois Altizer of the Busy Bee Senior club was selected to participate in the State "Share the Fun" contest where she received a white award.

11. 4-H All Star Chapter

Three county 4-H members were taken into the State 4-H All Star Chapter last year. These members, along with their parents, attended the All Star Key Awards Banquet in Abingdon, Virginia, this past August.

12. National 4-H Club Week

National 4-H Club Week was observed throughout the county by placing six educational exhibits in local store windows, two radio programs, grace cards in restaurants, and numerous newspaper articles.

13. State 4-H Short Course

Thirteen 4-H members attended the State 4-H Short Course at VPI, June 22-27. Clyde Barrett, Bandy, participated in the 4-H Public Speaking Contest and received a third place ribbon. Edwin Mustard, Thompson Valley, placed sixth in the 4-H Sheep Shearing Contest.

Sue Mustard, Thompson Valley, was elected 1st Vice-President of the Short Course for the coming year.

Jimmy Lawson, and Gordon Gillespie. The team placed fourth in District competition.

6. Sheep Shearing

Three 4-H club members participated in the District Sheep Shearing Contest held at the Glade Springs Experiment Station. The boys participating and their placings were: Edwin Mustard, second; Joe Gillespie, third; Jack Smith, fourth.

7. County Fairs

Two fairs are held annually in the county with about equal participation by club members at each fair.

The Richlands Fair and Stock Show was held June 17-20, under the sponsorship of the Richlands Businessmen's Association. Club members exhibited 12 club booths and 218 individual exhibits.

The Tasewell County Fair was held August 10-15, with the local American Legion Post sponsoring the event. Seven 4-H club educational exhibits were on display along with approximately 300 individual exhibits. Club members exhibited 37 entries in the Dairy Show; four in the Beef Show and four in the Sheep Show.

Club members also exhibited at the Atlantic Rural Exposition, Richmond, Virginia.

8. Bristol Baby Beef Show and Sale

Two baby beeves and one heifer were entered in the Bristol Show. Both steers graded choice and placed fourth and seventeenth in a class of 20 entries. The heifer placed fourteenth in a class of 17 entries.

money for the Center. To date, \$7,821.16 has been raised. Approximately forty-five club members attended Open House at the Center on October 20.

4. Rural Youth Sunday

All club members were urged to attend church as a group on Rural Life Sunday and to take some part in the services. One club presented a radio program on W.R.I.C, Richlands, Virginia, while others took part in their respective church programs.

5. 4-H Judging Teams

Twelve 4-H boys participated in the Southwest Virginia District Judging Contest held in Abingdon, April 16. The county was represented by a land appreciation team, a livestock judging team and a dairy judging team.

The livestock judging team was composed of Joe Gillespie, Edwin Mustard, Kenneth Necessary and Richard Mays. The team placed third in District competition. Edwin Mustard was second high individual in the contest.

The dairy judging team, which placed third, was composed of Kenny Neel, Max Hall, Jack Smith and Jimmy Peery. Mr. Bill Patterson, Associate Extension Dairy Specialist, assisted nine 4-H members in dairy cattle judging.

The land appreciation team was composed of club members from the Pocahontas 4-H club. Having this team from a non-agricultural region of the county has created new interest in 4-H club work for urban members. The team was composed of David Kovach, Benny Erdelyi,

4-H Club Agent, spoke to the group on "Keys to Success in 4-H Club Work." Forty-five club members were initiated into the Honor Club and given certificates of membership.

Thirty-two county achievement medals were awarded to boys and girls having done outstanding project work. Banners were presented to the five outstanding 4-H clubs in the county. A trophy was also presented to the club having the best project completion.

2. 4-H Camps

The county members attended two 4-H Camps this past year. A Senior camp for older boys and girls was held at Greeneville, Tennessee, June 8-13, and a Junior camp was held at Hinton, West Virginia, July 13-18. Twenty-six 4-H club members, along with the assistant county agent and one adult woman leader, attended the Senior camp in Tennessee. Thirty-four club members and the home demonstration agent and county agent attended the Junior camp in West Virginia.

Four club members attended Conservation Camp at Camp Farrar, Virginia Beach, July 20-25. These 4-H'ers were sponsored by the Tazewell and Pocahontas Lions Club and the Tazewell Livestock Market.

Two club members attended the TVA Natural Resources Conference, June 2-6, at Fontana Lake, North Carolina. These members were sponsored by the County Test Demonstration Association. The home agent assisted with the camp.

3. Southwest Virginia 4-H Center

Tazewell County's quota for the development of the Southwest Virginia 4-H Center was \$16,316.00. Each club worked toward raising

groups and given special training in their respective offices.

3. 4-H Leaders

Thirty-five 4-H leaders attended the kick-off banquet of the fund raising drive for the Southwest Virginia 4-H Center.

Four leaders attended the Adult 4-H Leaders' Conference at Natural Bridge, November 20-22, 1959.

4. Honor Club

To recognize older 4-H members who had successfully completed three years of 4-H work, a 4-H Honor Club was organized in December, 1958. The 4-H All Stars in the county worked with the agents in selecting and organizing the group. Initiation of 45 Honor Club members was conducted by the All Stars in a candle-lighting ceremony at the County Achievement Program.

At the initial meeting of the club, each member was encouraged to select an individual project that would strengthen the 4-H club program in the county. Each member received training in junior leadership.

The Honor Club has supported the campaign for the development of the Southwest Virginia 4-H Center, sold candy for a money making project, and made plans to enter a 4-H float in the county Christmas parades.

B. 4-H Activities

1. Achievement Program

The 4-H Achievement Program was held December 6, with 125 members and leaders present. Mr. Aubrey Slayton, Associate State

to visit the Extension office at which time their farm management practices were discussed and fertilizer requisitions completed. During the past year, a total of 144 tons of Test Demonstration fertilizer was used in the county for various farm practices.

Also several days have been spent visiting TVA farms and assisting these farmers with their management problems. Mr. Kenneth Looper assisted one unit demonstrator with his record keeping system.

A progress report was prepared on the Charlie Steele farm this year.

VIII. 4-H CLUB WORK

A. Organization

1. Number of Clubs

There were 37 clubs in the county, with a total of 527 boys enrolled. Of the 37 clubs, $\frac{3}{4}$ were organized in the schools, while three were community clubs.

2. 4-H County Council

The Tazewell County 4-H Council is composed of the officers of the 37 clubs in the county. Two County Council meetings were held during the past year. At the spring meeting, officers were elected, progress reports given by clubs, and the Short Course, Conservation Camp and Southwest Virginia 4-H Center discussed. Plans were made for Junior and Senior 4-H camps and for three electric project schools. A donation was given to the National 4-H Club Center in Washington.

The fall meeting was held November 14, with 70 members present. Committees were appointed and plans made for the 4-H yearbooks and Achievement Day program. Officers were broken into

A forestry management demonstration is in the process of being set up on Mr. H. H. Lineberry's farm in Burkes Garden in cooperation with Mr. A. B. Lyons, Extension Forester.

There is some land in this county that is too steep for cultivation and pasture. Land owners will be encouraged to plant trees on this land to help prevent erosion.

VII. EXTENSION-TVA PROGRAM

The 21 active long-time and unit demonstrators were maintained throughout the year.

The annual County TVA Test Demonstration Association meeting was held March 31, with 31 people attending. Mr. W. N. Patterson, Extension Dairyman, gave a very interesting talk on Dairying. This group voted to sponsor two club members to the TVA Resources Camp at Fontana Lake, North Carolina, and one family to the Valley-wide meeting of farm families at Muscle Shoals, Alabama.

Thirteen people from this county attended the Southwest Virginia Agricultural Association meeting in Abingdon. Mr. A. L. Leffel, from the Clear Fork community gave a very interesting progress report on his farming operation since he took over the farm some 25 years ago.

The Charlie Steele family of the Paint Lick community attended the annual meeting of the Valley-wide Association of Test Demonstration farm families at Muscle Shoals, Alabama.

An alfalfa fertilization management demonstration was set up on one TVA farm.

Several days were designated throughout the year for demonstrators

programs the fieldman from the Artificial Breeding Association to explain the benefits of this program to manufactured milk producers.

The Extension agents, at the present time, are working on getting a group of farmers in the county enrolled in a dairy record keeping system.

C. Agricultural Engineering

There have been nine new silos built in the county during the past year. Mr. Dan Rite, Extension Agricultural Engineer, assisted part of these farmers on construction and location of these silos. Also, seven new hay sheds have been constructed. Two farmers have been assisted with re-arrangement of farm buildings for more efficient feeding methods.

D. Poultry

A poultry producers' meeting was held in January with the assistance of Mr. Denver Bragg, Extension Poultryman, and Mr. Harold Walker, Extension Economist, on the advantages and disadvantages of the poultry business. Information has been furnished several farmers on different phases of the poultry business. There has been some increase in laying flocks in the county during the past year as a means of supplementary income. Two farmers were assisted with problems on poultry diseases.

E. Forestry

Tazewell County farmers and land owners planted an estimated 100,000 trees on eroded and steep slopes through efforts of all agencies in the county.

of heavy grass fat cattle producers in Abingdon, Virginia, to hear an explanation of the future of these cattle. Since there is very little demand for these cattle, the farmers were advised to change to some type of beef cattle farming where there is more demand and competition.

The county agent has spent some time this fall in helping farmers secure good foundation individuals for starting cow and calf herds and also selecting sires that will be used on these herds.

One farmer has been assisted on an individual basis with the assistance of Mr. Kenneth Loops, Extension Economist, on changing his operation to be an increasingly more profitable one.

Good beef cattle management practices have been publicized by means of newspaper, radio and bulletins. Plans for dehorning chutes, loading chutes and holding pens have been made available to farmers and they have been encouraged to build these to facilitate handling of livestock.

3. Dairy Cattle

Dairy farmers have been informed of the latest dairy management practices by means of radio, news articles and individual contacts.

Two dairy farmers have been assisted by the Extension agents and Mr. Dan Kite, Extension Agricultural Engineer, on arrangement of farm buildings for Grade A dairies. Two manufactured milk producers were assisted in silo construction and making silage.

Dairy cattle classes were held at the Richlands and Tasewell County fairs, with emphasis on artificially bred heifers.

The Freestone Valley Community Club had as one of their

out of crops where practical.

B. Livestock

1. Sheep

This year approximately 2,000 sheep have been dipped in the portable dipping vat. This vat, financed by the Board of Supervisors has helped to eliminate sheep scab and other external parasites on sheep in the county.

The Southwest Virginia Purebred Sheep Breeders' Association held a ram sale in cooperation with the yearling ewe sale on June 26, with 15 rams selling.

Several farmers were aided this year in securing purebred rams and breeding stock for their flocks in the county.

Good sheep management practices have been publicized by means of news articles, radio programs, and bulletins.

2. Beef Cattle

The 25th Annual Tazewell Hereford Breeders' Sale was held October 24, with 100 lots selling. The average was \$258.00 per head. This is \$18.00 less than the previous year, but since cattle prices have declined during the year this was considered to be a good sale. This year 45 head were weighed and indexed on the Virginia B.C.I.A. program for the sale.

A yearling steer sale was held at the Tazewell Livestock Market on October 7, with 500 head selling. The quality and number of cattle could be improved in this sale in the future.

Last spring 15 farmers from this county attended a meeting

A tobacco letter was sent to all burley producers in the county, giving varieties, time of planting, specific spacing and other information that will be of benefit to the tobacco producers.

Two tobacco grading demonstrations were held in the tobacco producing areas of the county, giving them the latest information on grading burley tobacco and preparing it for market. Approximately 40 people attended these two demonstrations.

The high-irradiation corn varietal tests were continued again this year in Burkus Garden. This year there was a good test and will give some helpful information on varieties that will help farmers in that section of the county to grow an adapted variety.

Two varieties of sorghums for silage were grown by two farmers, but proved not to be as good as the variety they were already growing.

2. FORAGE CROPS

Two alfalfa fertilization demonstrations were set up in this county this past spring. These demonstrations are at a normally higher application of fertilizer than most farmers use and also each demonstration was treated with Daptachlor for insect control. One of the most noticeable results was the control of the spittlebug, which is a problem in many legume fields during the spring.

The alfalfa weevil was found in the east end of this county. Alfalfa fields were checked very closely this past spring for weevil presence along with the assistance of the State Entomologist.

Farmers were encouraged by personal contacts to make silage

improvement with possible alternatives was outlined by the agents.

The County ASC and Soil Conservation programs were explained and the farmers encouraged to participate where a practice was applicable on their farm. An agronomy letter indicating proper fertilization practices and seed variety selection was sent to each farmer. Also, the importance of good farm records was discussed and each family was assisted in setting up these records. The program was publicized through periodical radio programs and news articles.

4. Results

Since there has not been an agent assigned to this program in the county this year, the present farm families were maintained and assisted on various problems.

Farmers on this program have been assisted with livestock selection for replacements, herd sires, improved varieties, crop rotations, diseases, farm buildings, dairy improvements, and farm records.

In general, the families participating have become familiar with, and are attempting to apply, better farming practices on their farms.

VI. OTHER PROJECT ACTIVITIES

A. AGRONOMY

1. Crops

The agronomy letter was sent to all farmers and included the latest recommended varieties of crops, rate of planting, and time of planting. Also newspaper and radio programs have been used to inform farmers of latest crop information.

thus making the farm and home one complete unit. There are quite a number of farms in this county where a little good planning could make the difference between success and failure and in some cases could increase the family income to where farming could be a very profitable business. On the other hand, there are some that could profit by changing from farming to some other operation. The need for some type of program to help correct these situations was apparent and it was felt that the Farm and Home Development plan was a step in the right direction.

2. Objective

To attain and maintain 30 to 40 active Farm and Home Development families and to provide adequate publicity concerning the program. Each farm added to the program would be analyzed by the county Extension personnel and suggestions for improvements would be discussed with the family.

3. Method

Families selected for this program were known by the agents or had requested assistance from the Extension Service. Farm visits were made to these families and the program discussed with the family. From these visits, the county Extension agents determined whether or not the Farm and Home Development program could be applied effectively with this family.

After a family had been selected, an inventory and a farm layout map were made on the present operation. From this inventory and familiarization of the layout of the farm, a proposed plan of

3. Method

The members of the Artificial Breeding Association met and elected a new group of officers for the coming year.

News articles and radio programs have been used to explain the benefit of the service to the farmers. Cards were also printed that could be passed out to farmers interested in the program.

4. Results

During the first year approximately 200 cows were bred by the local technician. The big job this man had to do was sell himself to the farmers that he was willing to work for them as most of them already knew the benefits from artificial breeding. This technician has done this and in talking to him he is now running about 75% ahead of last year in services performed.

The county agent and the State Director from the local Association attended the annual meeting of the Virginia Artificial Breeding Association at Rocky Mount, Virginia.

The Freestone Valley Community Club had as one of their programs the fieldman from the Virginia Artificial Breeding Association to explain the benefits of artificial breeding.

II. Farm and Home Development

1. Reason for Major Emphasis

It was realized some years ago, and the situation is still the same, that a definite need existed to assist some farm families in the overall planning of their farm operation. It was realized too that this planning should include the homestead as well as the farmstead,

their nominations for the sale. Farmers who did not understand the rules and regulations were visited and explained individually, so that they would fully understand the requirements of the sale.

There were news articles and radio programs to explain the sale to farmers and interested individuals.

4. Results

A feeder calf sale was held at the Tasewall Livestock Market in cooperation with the Virginia Feeder Cattle Sales Association. There were 704 head sold at the sale. Mr. C. T. Barnes, Jr., who is in charge of the Grading Service for the Division of Markets, said this was the best group of calves they graded for the number brought in. All in all, most producers were very well pleased with the sale and plans will be made to continue the sale next year. Since there is a shifting to cow and calf herds from heavy grass fat cattle it will be more important to have a feeder calf sale at Tasewall.

G. Artificial Breeding Association

1. Reason for Major Emphasis

In past years this Association had lost the services of their technician. Last year a new technician was hired and had just started working in August. This man has now worked one year and has proven that he can do a good job.

2. Objective

To increase the membership in the Tasewall Artificial Breeding Association.

calves besides selling in the field or at the local market. There had been a feeder calf sale at Tazewell before, but there had not been too much interest and the sale was discontinued a few years ago.

2. Objective

To have a meeting of feeder calf producers and give them the information about the organized sales in cooperation with the Virginia Feeder Cattle Sales Association. If the farmers were interested then a feeder calf sale would be organized and held.

3. Method

A dinner meeting of the feeder calf producers was held to discuss the feeder calf situation. Mr. K. C. Williamson, Extension Livestock Marketing Specialist, and Mr. Allen Randolph, Executive Secretary of the Virginia Beef Cattle Association, were here to assist with this meeting and to give the farmers information on the sales held throughout the state. This meeting was sponsored by the Tazewell Livestock Market.

Three days were spent prior to the meeting visiting feeder calf producers and discussing the sale.

The sale was thoroughly explained and discussed by the group present. The group voted to have a feeder calf sale at the Tazewell Livestock Market on October 14. A Feeder Calf Association was formed and a sales committee elected to work with the Extension agents on getting the sale started again.

A news letter was sent to all feeder calf producers in the county explaining the action taken at the meeting and also for

forms for wool were signed at this time which facilitates matters for the farmer and the ASC clerk.

E. Yearling Ewe Sale

1. Reason for Major Emphasis

This sale was organized in 1956 and will need some promoting for its success in the future.

2. Objective

To hold the fourth annual Tasewell Yearling Ewe Sale at the Tasewell Livestock Market.

3. Method

A meeting of the producers was held in March to discuss the sale. A sales committee was elected and the rules and regulations adopted.

The local dipping vat was secured to dip the sheep as they were brought in to the sale for the control of external parasites.

4. Results

The fourth Yearling Ewe Sale was held June 26, 1959, with 873 head selling. The number was down from the previous year but this was the best set of ewes quality-wise that have been sold in the Yearling Ewe Sale. This sale will have to continue to be improved as it is helping farmers in the area market their yearling ewes for more than they can be sold in the field or on the regular section market.

F. Feeder Calf Sale

1. Reason for Major Emphasis

Farmers were interested in an organized way to market their

marketing agency in Southwest Virginia. An organized wool pool prevents speculators from coming into the county and buying wool from individual farmers at their own price.

2. Objective

To organize a county wool pool and assist the Burkes Garden Wool Pool with the selling of their wool.

3. Method

A meeting of the wool producers was held at which time the producers decided how they were going to sell their wool. The same sales committee was re-elected for another year. Bids were accepted from five interested buyers and the wool was sold to Hirsch Brothers, Cumberland, Maryland, the high bidder.

The Burkes Garden Wool Pool was already organized and they were assisted in selling their wool to the same company. Since topography separates this community from the rest of the county, they felt that it was an advantage to sell separately from the Tasevell Wool Pool.

4. Results

The Tasevell Wool Pool took up 67,500 pounds of wool on June 19, 1959. The Burkes Garden Wool Pool took up 13,500 pounds on June 20, 1959. This represented about 95% of the wool in the county; with the remaining 5% purchased by a speculator for approximately two cents less per pound than the Tasevell Pool. All who have participated in the wool pool felt that this organization has helped the farmers receive a high price for their wool. Also, ASC incentive payment

benefit of plant food through the proper use of fertilizer and lime.

2. Objective

To encourage proper use of plant food by buying the correct grades of fertilizer and using this with the proper lime requirements.

3. Method

The Agronomy Committee felt that the agents could help some farmers get improved results from the proper use of lime and fertilizer. An agronomy letter was sent to all farmers in the county giving the latest recommendations on grades of fertilizer to use, the amount, and on which crop to apply this fertilizer. All the fertilizer dealers were sent the grades and any other information that would benefit their selling the right analysis of fertilizer to the farmers. News articles, radio programs, and individual consultations have been used to encourage better use of lime and fertilizer. This is a continuing process from year to year and there is improvement in this field.

4. Results

The number of soil samples has increased 10% during the past year. Farmers are asking for more information on plant food and how it can be used to benefit their crops.

D. Wool Pool

1. Reason For Major Emphasis

Farmers in the county felt that an organized wool pool was the best way to market wool since there is not an organized wool

Club be continued again this year as it is creating interest among the farmers in the county.

2. Objective

To continue the 100-Bushel Corn Club.

3. Method

The Agronomy Committee suggested that the 100-Bushel Corn Club be continued for another year. The Tazewell Lions Club agreed to sponsor this contest for another three years. This contest was publicized in the newspapers and on the radio. Farmers participating in the contest were signed up before June 1, 1959.

4. Results

Fifteen farmers in the county signed up for the contest and thirteen entries of corn were measured. Two entries decided not to have their corn measured due to the dry weather. Twelve of the thirteen entries made at least a 100 bushels per acre.

The Tazewell Lions Club purchased three trophies for the top three entries and invited all participants to an awards dinner. Top entry in the contest was W. G. Laffel, Jr., of the Clear Fork community. Laffel was also top man last year. There has been much interest and enthusiasm in this contest and many farmers are asking questions about how these farmers are increasing their yields. This contest will be continued next year.

C. Plant Food

1. Reason for Major Emphasis

Farmers in Tazewell County were not receiving the full

4. Results

This year approximately 900 acres have been fertilized by airplane in this county. Also approximately 850 acres were fertilized by machinery or by hand.

Farmers and professional workers have watched the results of the airplane spreading of fertilizer very closely this year to determine if there was any increased growth in these pastures. In all the pastures that have been inspected the results are very favorable with a thickening of the sod on the steep hills. In talking to the farmers that have spread fertilizer, they are all satisfied and wish that they were able to do more. The limiting factor is the cost of spreading the fertilizer.

Another problem on these mountain pastures is weed and brush control. An experiment is being conducted in cooperation with Dow Chemical Company on the use of new chemicals on weed and brush control on the J. S. Gillespie farm at Pounding Mill. There were approximately 2,000 acres of weed, briars and brush sprayed again this year in the county.

Since the cost of using hand labor is out of the question then these pastures are going to have to be fertilized and the weeds and briars controlled by the use of airplanes if the cost can be kept down.

B. 100-Bushel Corn Club

1. Reason for Major Emphasis

The Agronomy Committee recommended that the 100-Bushel Corn

purchase of improved quality livestock; increased fertilization of pasture; and many other improvements that are helping to make their communities a better place in which to live and farm.

V. MAJOR ACTIVITIES

A. Pasture Program

1. Reason for Major Emphasis

This is a natural grass area and a sound agronomy program must be built around the economical production of forage crops. The problem confronting many farmers in this area was how to fertilize the steeper pasture that cannot be fertilized mechanically. The pounds of beef and lamb being produced on these pastures has been decreasing over the past few years due mainly to a lack of plant food.

2. Objective

To find some way for farmers to be able to fertilize steep pasture that would be economical and satisfactory since only a small percentage of the pastures are being fertilized; to hold weed control demonstration in pastures in cooperation with Dow Chemical Company on one farm.

3. Method

Again this year the agronomy committee felt that emphasis should be placed on increased fertilization of permanent pasture.

The agents worked in cooperation with the ASC Committee and other professional agricultural workers in encouraging farmers to fertilize pasture.

popular and is produced on a majority of the farms.

Dairying is becoming more popular as the nearby coal fields offer a good market.

Pisgah, Hagerstown, Frederick, Westmoreland, and Hayter are the important soil types of the county.

III. COUNTY ORGANIZATIONS

The Extension program in Tazewell County was developed from meetings of the following county and community organizations: Livestock Committee, Agronomy Committee, Artificial Breeding Association, TVA Test Demonstration Association, Tazewell Wool Pool, Burkes Garden Wool Pool, 4-H County Council, Tazewell Hereford Breeders' Association, Forestry Committee, Feeder Calf Sales Committee, and Community Club officers. The organizations furnished suggestions as to what we, as Extension agents, could do to help make their county a better place in which to work and live.

IV. COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

There are two organized community clubs in Tazewell County this year, Thompson Valley and Freestone Valley. A county improvement contest was sponsored by the Tazewell National Bank, with Freestone Valley placing first and Thompson Valley placing second. Freestone Valley placed in the white group in the Bristol Area Improvement Contest, sponsored by the Bristol Chamber of Commerce.

Some of the improvements accomplished this year by the community clubs were: support of local drives, such as March of Dimes and Heart Fund; invested in the Southwest Virginia 4-H Center; home improvements;

I. LOCATION OF TAZEVELL COUNTY

Tazewell County is located in the southwestern part of Virginia, its northern boundary adjoining the State of West Virginia. The county is oblong, and its greatest length is about 40 miles, between the north-east and southwest boundaries. Its width from the northwest to the southwest side ranges from about 10 to 20 miles. Tazewell, the county seat, is in the geographical center, about 20 miles southwest of Bluefield, West Virginia, 75 miles northeast of Bristol, Virginia, and 90 miles west of Roanoke, Virginia. The area of the county is 520 square miles, with 334,080 acres. The land surface comprising Tazewell County ranges from comparatively smooth valley uplands from 1,900 to 3,600 feet elevation to mountain ranges rising as high as 4,500 feet.

II. TYPE OF AGRICULTURE

General livestock farming is the most important type of farming in Tazewell County. Beef cattle, sheep and hogs, along with some dairying, comprises most of the farming operations. The beef cattle are chiefly of Hereford breeding with a few Shorthorn and Angus in some areas. The leading breed of sheep are Hampshire, with Burkes Garden considered "The Hampshire Throne of the World" by leading sheepmen. The sheep have replaced cattle on the steeper mountain slopes and pastures. Hogs are produced primarily for domestic use and are mainly of Hampshire breeding.

Corn and wheat are the leading grain crops. Hay, largely timothy and clover, is produced in rotations. Alfalfa is becoming very

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ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

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TAZEWELL

County