

VIRGINIA

CLARKE COUNTY

COUNTY AGENT ANNUAL REPORT

1933

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COUNTY AGENT ANNUAL REPORT

NARRATIVE REPORT  
OF  
WHEAT PRODUCTION CONTROL  
CAMPAIGN  
FOR  
CLARKE COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

STATE OF VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AND FORESTRY

REPORT FOR THE YEAR  
1934

STATE OF VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AND FORESTRY  
IN  
CLARKE COUNTY, VIRGINIA

NARRATIVE REPORT OF WHEAT PRODUCTION CONTROL  
CAMPAIGN FOR CLARKE COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

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NARRATIVE REPORT ON WHEAT PRODUCTION CONTROL  
CAMPAIGN FOR CLARKE COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

Status of County when Wheat Production Control work started.

Clarke is a rather small county in northern Virginia with soil of limestone origin. The farms are rather large, ranging from 100 acres up to 500 acres. The crop rotations followed are fairly uniform and are: (1) Three year rotation - corn, 1 year; wheat, 1 year; grass, 1 year. (2) Four year rotation - corn, 1 year; wheat, 1 year; grass and clover, 2 years. (3) Four year rotation - corn, 1 year; wheat, 2 years; grass and clover, 1 year. (4) Five year rotation - corn, 1 year; wheat, 2 years; grass and clover, 2 years. One of these is followed on practically every farm in the county on which general farming is practised. There are quite a number of large horse farms in certain sections which produce very little if any wheat.

There is one Smith-Hughes teacher in Clarke County who has been holding evening classes with farmers in one community. There is also a cooperative purchasing organization and a few of the Clarke county farmers belong to the Frederick County Farm bureau.

Educational campaign.

Upon request the Commissioner of Revenue and County Treasurer suggested names of men in different sections of the county who might act as temporary committeemen. The Emergency Agent with the

Smith-Hughes teacher interviewed a sufficient number of these men, explained the plan to them and asked their help. With one exception they agreed.

The Commissioner of Revenue went over his tax books with the Emergency Agent and a list was made of all possible wheat growers in the county. Copies of this list were sent to all millers, buyers, elevator men and threshermen for checking. The final list of growers was made up from the checked lists returned.

A circular letter was then mailed to each grower stating briefly the nature of the work, that an educational campaign was to be conducted in the county and that each grower should consider it his duty to find out all he could regarding the plan. Inclosed in this letter were W-5 and W-6.

Following the mailing of these letters consultations were held with each member of the campaign committee, the county was divided into communities and meetings advertised for each community. Advertising was by newspaper, telephone, circular letter and with posters. All of these meetings were held at night. In each case the temporary committeeman opened the meeting and turned it over to the Emergency Agent.

The presentation at each of the meetings was :- a. Discussion of ~~the~~ and reasons for some such plan by Emergency Agent. b. Working out of a problem on some one or more farms in the community, by Smith-Hughes teacher. c. Explanation of the plan including county organization, base period, source of funds, use of contracted land, penalties, the part of grower, the part of the Secretary, and meaning of terms, by the Emergency Agent. d. Answering of questions by both Emergency Agent and Smith-Hughes teacher. At one of the meetings the District County

Agent was present and assisted with the discussion. In one case it was necessary to repeat a meeting. On this occasion Mr. D. J. Howard, District Supervisor of Vocational Agriculture made the explanation.

Following these meetings the applications and all necessary attached forms were sent out to each grower with a circular letter announcing various men in the community qualified to render assistance in filling the forms. Meetings were then advertised as for the preceding series of meetings for the purpose of explaining the filling out of application forms, the necessity of having substantiating evidence of production and how to get it. These meetings were held in the same places as the previous ones.

Following this second series of meetings a circular letter was sent out with a typed problem worked out to show the probable financial returns to be expected by the cooperating grower as contrasted with the non-cooperator.

The Emergency Agent then announced that he would be present at a certain place in each community on certain days to assist with filling out applications. The temporary committeemen assisted with this to the extent of going out on those days and bringing wheat growers to the appointed places, telephoning, personal visits and trips to thresherman.

Eight days previous to the days set for the community organization meetings a fourth circular letter was sent to each grower explaining the purpose of that meeting and imposing a legal notice of it. These meetings were held according to regulations and the minutes duly kept. Directors and community committeemen were elected for four communities in the county.

On September 20th another circular letter was sent to growers

announcing September 25th as the final date for filing applications and announcing a last meeting for explanation of the entire plan for Saturday, September 23rd at the County Court House. All community committeemen were furnished a list of non-cooperators and the chairmen were instructed to see that every man on the list received a personal interview on September 23rd, 24th, or 25th. One member of a community committee and the Vocational Agricultural Instructor assisted in filling out applications the last two days.

#### Response of People and Organizations.

On the whole the growers approached showed a very fine spirit of cooperation, giving of their time and automobiles to further the work. In one instance it was found necessary to get another temporary committeeman. However, one was secured who cooperated to the fullest possible extent. The assistance of the Instructor of Vocational Agriculture was invaluable in saving of time. He spent several days in traveling about with the Emergency Agent for interviewing men for temporary committees and other purposes. He also contacted numerous key men with whom he was personally acquainted.

The Commissioner of Revenue and County Treasurer gave freely of their time and knowledge whenever called upon. This assistance proved invaluable in setting up an office, securing a list of growers and in determining proper men to contact.

#### Part Performed by Temporary Committeemen.

The responsibility for securing attendance at all meetings was placed upon the temporary committeemen. These men also secured meeting

places, conducted meetings and acted in an advisory capacity relative to their respective communities. They also assisted in dividing the county into permanent communities.

#### Type of Farming.

Clarke County had, according to the 1929 U. S. Census, 328 farms producing wheat. On these farms 18,326 acres of land produced 195,405 bushels of wheat. According to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics figures the average for the three years, 1930, 1931 and 1932 were: 11,527 acres seeded to wheat, 209,967 bushels of wheat produced with an average production per acre of 18.1 bu.

The eastern border of Clarke County is the ridge of the Blue Ridge mountain at the foot of which runs the Shenandoah river. Between these there is a rather extensive area on which there is practically no active farming practised.

In the east central part of the county there is an area largely owned by wealthy people and is devoted largely to the raising of horses. On these farms there is very little, if any general farming practised. Outside of these two areas the system of farming throughout the county is very much the same. Being devoted largely to the production of beef cattle, hogs, corn, wheat, hay and pasture. The crop rotations followed are given in the first paragraph of this report.

Commercial apple orchards are scattered throughout the county. Some few farms being devoted entirely to producing this commodity.

#### Sign-up objectives and results.

As soon as possible after work was started in the county an



objective was set for the sign-up campaign of 70% of the average number of bushels produced in the base period years 1930, 1931 and 1932.

At the close of the campaign the list of applications show

✓ 148 farms signed <sup>Applications</sup> or 45 per cent of the 1929 U. S. Census report.

A total three year average of 6396 acres seeded to wheat or 55 per cent of the county total and 11624 bushels or 55 per cent of the county total.

Though these results are not quite up to the objective set they are probably about as efficient for economical operation of the county association as it would be possible to get.

ORGANIZATION OF COUNTY WHEAT PRODUCTION  
CONTROL ASSOCIATION

Setting up permanent organization.

Following the election of directors in the various communities a meeting of the board was called. Mr. W. C. Shackelford, District County Agent, Mr. J. L. Manton, Agricultural Economist and Mr. H. M. Taylor, Agricultural Statistician were present for the first meeting of the Board of Directors.

Prior to the meeting, a suggested budget of expenses was made up by the Emergency Agent. Mr. Manton called the meeting to order. It was conducted strictly as prescribed in the Articles of Association. The officers were elected and the Allotment Committee. The Emergency Agent was elected Secretary with the understanding that another Secretary would be elected prior to his departure from the county. Various ways of managing the association were considered. This matter has not been definitely settled at the writing of this report. Mr. *A. B. Hammer* has been elected Executive Secretary of the Association with the understanding that in case it is found expedient to put in a County Agent a change will be made.

Community Organization.

The Emergency campaign committee tentatively divided the county into the four regular registerial districts with the understanding that this division might be changed at a later date. As applications for Wheat Allotment Contracts came in it became evident that this division was about as satisfactory as could be arranged. Therefore, the county was *organized*.

with four communities, each community being a magisterial district, namely Chapel, Greenway, Rattletoft and Longmarsh. Allotments for these communities are : Chapel *9313* bu.; Greenway *11011* bu.; Rattletoft *17146* bu.; and Longmarsh *15000* bu. *as shown by applications.*

This shows three of the communities running fairly close with Chapel low. *Chapel* is quite the largest of the four communities in area and the shortage is due to the large area of mountain land and numerous horse farms within its boundaries.

#### Participation of Officers.

On September 23rd, 24th and 25th all members of community committees canvassed the entire county and personally interviewed all growers who at that time had not agreed to cooperate. The result was that the number of applications were almost doubled in the last three days.

Each community committee met and considered each application for their respective communities for errors. They checked all attached papers, made corrections and suggestions where necessary and signed them. In a few cases they refused to sign applications and made personal inquiry to ascertain correct figures, after which the corrected application was duly signed and passed on to the Allotment Committee.

After adjusted acreage, adjusted production and allotments had been calculated by the Emergency Agent the Allotment Committee met for the purpose of passing on the applications. Whenever the average as given in the application was changed by this committee the calculations were made and changes made on the work sheet. In a few instances the applications were refused by this committee pending appearance of the growers concerned.

When the Contracts had been filled out the Community Committees for the entire county were called in and given instructions in how to fill

In signatures on the contracts, The Contracts for each community were turned over to the chairman of that community committee. These men divided them among themselves with the understanding that he was to see and secure the signatures on the ones he took. During the following day. This method proved very successful except in a few cases of absentee ownership.

#### Status of County Association.

The Wheat Production Control Association of Clarke County, Virginia has been organized with a total of **148** Applications for Wheat Allotment Contracts filed. These Applications after approval by the Community and Allotment Committees represent a total average acreage of **6396** acres and a total average production of **115244** bushels of wheat. Of this **148** applications, **142** contracts were signed representing a total average acreage of **6134** acres and a total average production of **109,976** bushels. These signed contracts also represent a total signed allotment for Clarke County of **53711** bushels of wheat and means a reduction of **920** acres for the entire County.

## SUMMARY

Clarke County, Virginia is essentially agriculture in nature producing principally apples, wheat, corn, hogs and cattle. The farms average about 200 acres in size and definite crop rotations are followed.

When asked to help, the majority of the farm population show a fine spirit of cooperation.

The Wheat Production Control Association was organized with four directors from as many communities or magisterial districts. In it are represented **142** farms, total average of **6134** acres and **108978** bushels of wheat thus calling for a reduction of **920** acres or **16,652** bushels at the 5 year average of 16.4 bushels of wheat per acre.

OFFICE OF AGRICULTURE  
 VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
and State Agricultural Colleges  
Cooperating

Extension Service,  
Cooperative Extension Work  
Washington, D.C.

**EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENT**  
TO  
**ANNUAL REPORT OF COUNTY EXTENSION WORKERS**  
**YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1933**

State Virginia County (or counties) Clarke

Report of \_\_\_\_\_ *Agricultural agent.*  
(Name)

\_\_\_\_\_ *Home demonstration agent.*  
(Name)

\_\_\_\_\_ *Boys' and girls' club agent or assistant.*  
(Name)

Wm. I. Thomas *Emergency agent.*  
(Name)

**DIRECTIONS**

This report form is for use of regularly employed county extension agents and temporary emergency agents, for reporting all work relating to production-reduction campaigns, relief activities, and other emergency work engaged in during the year. This report supplements but does not displace the regular annual statistical report of cooperatively employed agents, on form 285.

This report should be prepared as a single report for the county by all county extension agents and emergency agents working as a committee. Each individual agent should discuss in the regular narrative annual report his or her part in advancing the emergency work included in this supplement.

Where an emergency agent is the only extension worker employed in the county he should fill out this form and accompany it with a full narrative account of his work. In case the emergency agent works in several counties the report should cover the entire area worked in, and be so labeled.

Where the services of the emergency agent are discontinued prior to November 30, 1933, this schedule should be filled out before the agent leaves the county.

Two copies of this report should be sent to the State extension office, one of which will be forwarded to the Federal Extension Service.

## PRODUCTION-REDUCTION CAMPAIGNS

## ASSISTANCE RENDERED THE AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION

Nature of assistance or activity	Cotton	Wheat	Volume	60'
	(6)	(3)	(6)	
Agricultural agent				
Home demonstration agent				1
Boys' and girls' club agent				
Emergency agent		92		
1. Days devoted to campaign by agent or agents				
2. Days State extension workers assisted in campaign in county		11		2
3. Smith-Hughes teachers assisting in campaign		1		3
4. Days such Smith-Hughes teachers assisted in campaign		12		4
5. Number voluntary county or community local leaders assisting in campaign		16		5
6. Total days spent on campaign by such local leaders		64		6
7. Farm visits made to explain plans for reducing production		108		7
8. Office calls to discuss reducing production		250		8
9. Individual letters written in interest of campaign		294		9
10. Circular letters written for use in campaign		6		10
11. Total copies of such circular letters mailed		2190		11
12. Newspaper articles relating to reducing production furnished local papers		21		12
13. Meetings held to advance campaign		17		13
14. Total attendance at such meetings		447		14
15. Farms for which production-reduction contracts were completed		142		15
16. Total reduced production contracted for on such farms (acres, animals, etc.)		920		16
17. Number of farmers following advice of agent in the planting of replacement crops or other use of land removed from production of basic crops		100		17

\* Insert name of any other crop or livestock enterprise in which a definite production-reduction campaign has been conducted in your county.

## EMERGENCY ACTIVITIES

14. Number of farmers assisted in obtaining seed loans or other emergency Federal credit	18
15. Number of farmers assisted in making mortgage or other debt adjustments	19
20. Number of families assisted in producing a larger part of food on farm	20
21. Number of families, nonfarm, assisted with home gardens or home poultry	21
22. Number of urban families moving to farms who have been assisted in getting established	22
23. Number of laborers assisted in obtaining employment on farm	23
24. Number of farm families assisted in developing supplemental sources of income	24
25. Number of families aided in obtaining assistance from Red Cross or other relief agency	25
26. Number of families assisted in home butchering, meat cutting, and curing	26
27. Number of families assisted in the canning of fruits, vegetables, and meats	27
28. Number of quarts canned	28
29. Value of canned products	29
30. Number of families assisted in butter and cheese making	30
31. Number of families assisted in home soap making	31
32. Number of families assisted in making home-made equipment or conveniences	32
33. Number of farmers assisted in making home repairs of buildings or machinery	33
34. Number of farmers assisted in reducing cash expenditures through exchange of labor or machinery	34
35. Number of farm families assisted in bartering farm or home products for other commodities or services	35



### SUMMARY OF EXTENSION INFLUENCE FOR 1933

Present conditions make it highly desirable for extension workers to consider the proportion of farms and farm homes in the county which have been definitely influenced to make some substantial change in farm or home operations as a result of the extension program for men, women, boys, and girls. It is recognized that this is very difficult information for agents to report accurately, so a conservative estimate based upon such records, surveys, and other information as are available will be satisfactory.

Include results of the regular 1933 extension program as well as emergency activities.

36. Number of farms in county	329		36
37. Number of farms on which substantial changes in practices have definitely resulted from the agricultural extension program		142	37
38. Number of farm homes in which substantial changes in practices have definitely resulted from the home demonstration program			38
39. Number of other homes in which substantial changes in practices have definitely resulted from the home demonstration program			39
40. Number of farm homes with 4-H Club members enrolled		0	40
41. Number of other homes with 4-H Club members enrolled		0	41
42. Total number of different farm families substantially influenced by some phase of the extension program		142	42
(Include questions 37, 38, 40, and 41, less duplications)			