

Information regarding the Annual Summer School for Town and Country Ministers held at VPI in July was mailed to all county ministers.

The county agent and assistant helped with the judging of farm produce and vegetables at the Warren County Fair and Fauquier Junior Fair in September.

Fifteen copies of each of the first three leaflets prepared by the Federal Extension Service have been mailed to leaders in government and civic affairs in the county.

Throughout the year requests were handled for information on tree and small fruits, poultry, general insect identification and control, and disease and insect control for ornamental plants. General bulletins and plans for farm buildings were made available. Farmers were assisted with locating farm labor. A weekly radio program was continued and has proved to be useful in distributing information.

The county agent assisted in arranging for community meetings and also used circular letters, newspaper articles, radio broadcasts, and personal contacts to inform county farmers of the provisions of the programs.

Copies of the 1961 Farmer's Tax Guide and the Virginia Farm Economics Outlook Issue were mailed to farmers. A Farmer's Tax Meeting was conducted by W. J. Nuckolls, Associate Extension Agricultural Economist, in January.

A day was spent with John F. Shoulders, Associate Extension Agronomist, visiting local golf course superintendents to interest them in attending the Richmond Turf Conference in February and to discuss recent developments in turf grass research.

Two farmers enrolled to participate in the VPI Electronic Farm Record Program for 1961, but only one has kept up through the year. A circular letter, newspaper article, radio broadcasts, and personal contacts were used to encourage enrollment for 1962. Five farmers have enrolled.

All farmers were notified of the Institute of Rural Affairs by a circular letter, news article, radio broadcasts, and personal contact. Two farmers attended.

The county agent participated with the USDA Emergency Planning Committee in connection with Phase 1 of Operation Alert 1961.

Six men and the county agent attended the program on Virginia's Changing Agriculture held at Culpeper in October. They were interested in the information and impressed with the manner in which it was presented. Material from this program was used to make up a program presented to the local Holstein Club by a local dairy farmer who attended the Culpeper meeting and the county agents from Fauquier and Prince William. During Farm - City Week, the county agent presented a program to the Manassas Kiwanis Club using some of the same material plus some local statistics and trends.

Assistance was given in the preparation and presentation of a program for the April meeting of the Manassas Ruritan Club. The program dealt with the farming trends in the county over the past thirty years.

The Veterans' Farm Club was given assistance with the Twelfth Annual Prince William County Fair held in August. Arrangements were made for judges and included from VPI: Lewis Wesley, F. H. Scott, M. S. Kipps, W. N. Patterson, Roie Godsey, and Curtis Mast. Attendance at this year's fair was over 50,000.

Cooperation was given to the local ASCS Committee in explaining the USDA Feed Grain Program and 1962 Wheat Stabilization Program to farmers.

Assistance was given at each show to the entire group showing, and special effort was made toward having a good fitting and showing contest at each show.

During National 4-H Week, March 5-12, special 4-H sections were prepared in both local papers. These sections contained articles, written by members and agents, and pictures of various 4-H activities. Nine clubs put educational exhibits in store windows and other localities. These were judged and prizes given from funds donated by the county council.

Other special 4-H activities during the year sponsored by one or several of the thirty four various clubs included: three picnics, one countywide; two community clean-up activities; county Rural Life Sunday Program; community Easter egg hunt; community Halloween Party; sixteen page 4-H yearbook; and many local club parties, money making activities, etc.

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES

Three meetings on landscaping were held in Manassas during February and March. The following subjects were discussed: Selection and Care of Trees for the Home Grounds by Charles H. Kennedy, local nurseryman; Preparation and Care of Lawns by Dr. W. P. Judkins, Head of Horticulture Department; and Basic Landscaping by A. S. Beecher, Extension Horticulturist. A program was presented by the county agent in October for the Manassas Garden Club on Winter Care and Pruning of Ornamental Plants.

The team placed fifth in Northern Virginia Contest and fourth in the state contest, this time beating all district teams but one.

Seven 4-H'ers were taken to a livestock judging clinic in Culpeper in April. They worked once more in the county. Five of these will be old enough to form a county team in 1962.

Forty six boys attended either junior or senior 4-H camp at Jamestown. During junior camp, July 10-15, they received training in handicrafts, sports, nature study, and leadership. The weekend senior camp was devoted mainly to teaching junior leadership.

One achievement record was submitted in crops and one in dairy, with the crops entry receiving district recognition.

In March a talent contest was held for each individual club in order to select participants for the county Share-the-Fun Contest in April. On April 27th, this program was presented to an audience of over four hundred, with thirty four acts participating. The county winners placed among the finalists at the state contest at the 1961 Short Course.

On March 23, county contests were held in public speaking, forestry demonstrations, electricity demonstrations, and various girls demonstrations. The county forestry winner placed second in the district contest and won a red ribbon in the state. All 4-H members in the county were told of these contests and encouraged to participate.

Ten 4-H members were assisted individually in learning how to fit and show their livestock for various fairs and shows.

A higher completion rate resulted from this effort, especially among the younger school club members.

All 4-H members were sent a Prince William County Fair Catalog and a special letter telling them of contests and events of special interest to them. Approximately forty members showed livestock and crops in the fair from August 13 through 19. On Friday of fair week, a special 4-H Club Day was held with all club members receiving a free pass from the Extension Office. Contests on this day included fitting and showing, tractor driving, obstacle races, hog calling, and etc. Over one hundred boys participated in various events on this day. The 4-H County Council sponsored a country store at the fair also.

Twenty one county 4-H'ers showed animals in the Northern Virginia Dairy Show; seven in the Fredericksburg Fair, seven in the Atlantic Rural Exposition, four in the Fauquier-Prince William Black and White Show, and three in the Glenwood Park Livestock Show.

The 4-H County Council planned and erected an exhibit at the Atlantic Rural Exposition. Its theme was "4-H Develops Useful Citizens." It placed fourth in the state contest, and won \$75.00 for the County Council treasury.

Three county dairy judging practices were held in March and April. Five county members attended a dairy judging clinic in Fauquier. In April, the final team was picked to participate in the district contest.

8. Have at least two (2) boys submit an achievement record for district and state competition.
9. Organize and encourage a greater participation in county 4-H contests such as talent, public speaking, demonstrations, etc.
10. Have training session on fitting and showing livestock for all interested in showing in County Fair or other shows.
11. Give more emphasis to National 4-H Club Week in county.

Extension 4-H Club Activities and Results:

Three hundred twenty-three boys were enrolled in 4-H work for the year. Two hundred forty-seven agricultural projects were conducted, eighteen of these by girls. One hundred thirty-four related projects such as electricity, career exploration, and safety were conducted.

Older club members were kept more interested in 1961 by the use of new projects such as career exploration, automotive care and safety, junior leadership, and citizenship. An interstate 4-H exchange with Massachusetts is doing much to revive interest among older members also. Seven Massachusetts 4-H members stayed in Prince William 4-H homes in July. Seven from the county will probably go to Massachusetts in 1962. Ground work was begun on organizing Pony, Automotive, and Small Motors Clubs in the county. These will help stimulate older members interest.

Instruction on proper record keeping was given in all clubs, and the majority of members carrying livestock projects were given individual assistance with their books.

A copy of VPI Bulletin 192, "Hog Production," revised this year, was sent to all hog producers. Producers were notified of each of the feeder pig sales held at Culpeper, but no pigs were consigned. A purebred Yorkshire breeder has been assisted with litter certification.

Information on parasite control for beef cattle, hogs, and sheep has been distributed during the year. The importance of hog cholera control was emphasized through newspaper articles and personal contacts. Farmers have been notified of sales of registered breeding stock throughout the year.

4-H CLUB

Objectives:

1. Increase the re-enrollment percentage by developing more projects of interest to older 4-H members.
2. Increase the accuracy and percentage of record books completed.
3. Enroll one hundred fifty (150) members in agricultural projects.
4. Increase number of members participating in county fair.
5. Give instruction in dairy cattle and livestock judging to interested 4-H members; and through this pick a dairy and livestock judging team, if enough interest is developed.
6. Give county Honor Club and All-Stars a more definite responsibility in assisting with the 4-H Program.
7. Have forty (40) boys attend Jamestown 4-H Camp.

A purebred Angus herd located in the county last year and participated in the program in 1961. This gives the county three BCIA members. The BCIA sales held at Culpeper in March and November were publicized through newspaper articles and radio broadcasts. Beef cattle producers were notified of the feeder calf and yearling sales held at Winchester in April and October. Ninety feeder calves were consigned from the county. Assistance was given to the county inspection committee and at two of the sales. Publicity was given for the Beef Cattle Conference held at Front Royal in August through a circular letter, a newspaper article, and radio broadcasts.

Approximately 6000 pounds of wool was marketed by county sheep producers through the Fauquier County Wool Pool. Assistance was given with the collection of the wool. Producers were reminded of proper methods of handling the wool clip through the use of a circular letter and radio broadcast. The county agent and a county sheep producer attended a meeting in Luray in February to discuss the possibilities for a more efficient wool marketing program for Northern Virginia. A sheep management calendar and VPI Circular 863, "Foot Rot in Sheep", was sent to all sheep producers. The Returns per Ewe Contest was publicized by using a circular letter and personal contacts, however, there were no participants this year.

It met with their approval and has been put into effect. American Breeders Service and Curtiss Improved Stud Service both have technicians located in the county. This gives dairymen an excellent selection of better sires.

Information concerning the Dairymen's Short Course was distributed to interested dairymen. The Monthly Mastitis Memo was sent to all dairymen throughout the year.

LIVESTOCK

Objectives:

1. Increase the use of control measures for internal and external parasites of beef cattle, sheep, and swine.
2. Emphasize control of foot rot and scabies in sheep.
3. Encourage the use of meat-type boars and higher quality rams and bulls.
4. Emphasize the importance of the control of hog cholera.
5. Encourage the sale of more calves through feeder calf sales.
6. Increase participation in the Beef Cattle Improvement Association Program.
7. Have better care given to wool clip and have wool marketed to better advantage.

Extension Livestock Activities and Results:

Assistance was given in arranging the schedule for the yearly BCIA weighing and grading at participating farms and also with the actual weighing.

Officers were elected for 1961 and William S. Griffith, Assistant Extension Dairy Specialist discussed how much hay, grain and silage to feed.

Assistance was given to the Fauquier - Prince William Holstein Club with their activities throughout the year. A twilight meeting was held in May at Nokesville. The program included a judging contest for 4-H and FFA members and a discussion of a Balanced Breeding Program by Dr. V. L. Baldwin, Associate Extension Dairy Specialist. The county agent acted as chairman for the meeting and 120 people attended. The Northern Virginia Black and White Show was held at the Prince William County Fair Grounds in July. Fifty animals from four counties were exhibited. The classes included, in addition to the normal show classes, a type-production class and two fitting and showing classes for 4-H and FFA members. The county agent, Fauquier county agent, and a local dairyman provided the program for a meeting in November. Material for this program was taken from Miscellaneous Publication No. 4, "Virginia's Changing Agriculture."

Representatives of the Virginia Artificial Breeding Association met with agents from Fairfax and Prince William early in the summer to discuss a possible change in areas covered by their technicians which would affect both counties. Prince William had been served by two of their technicians and under the proposed plan would be served by one man located in Fairfax. Dairymen were invited to a meeting held in Fairfax in August and the proposal presented to them.

4. Develop better market outlets for heifers.
5. Add four new D.H.I.A. members.
6. Have four of present D.H.I.A. convert to EDPM Program.

Extension Dairy Activities and Results:

An important step in making DHIA service available to more dairymen was the purchase of four milk-o-meter units by the local DHIA Association in March. The meters were put into use in April with four herds. They are now being used by seven. There are now 28 herds on test with 1605 cows being tested. This means that approximately 30% of the Grade A and manufacturing milk shippers are testing and 40% of the milk cows in the county are on test. Five new herds were added during the year, but four herds were discontinued testing. Of these four, two stopped because of herd dispersals, one for financial reasons, and one because the farm owner and dairy operator could not agree on the use of testing information. One herd was on EDPM at the beginning of the year. The five new herds started on EDPM and during the year five old herds converted. This makes eleven herds on EDPM at the end of the year. The DHIA Directors met at least quarterly and the agents gave assistance as needed. The annual meeting of the association was held in February.

Arrangements were made for G. R. Epperson and members of the Soil Survey Party to provide the program for a meeting of the Prince William - Fairfax Farm Bureau in July. They discussed what information was available from the soil survey and its value to all the people of the county.

Farmers were reminded of the help available from the ASCS in the establishment and maintenance of pasture and hay crops through ACP. A letter, soil sample boxes, and soil sample sheets were sent to each farmer during the county ACP sign-up period in November. Recommendations for lime and fertilizer were made for soil samples submitted by farmers who signed up for ACP practices. Assistance was also given in the development of the 1962 ACP county practices.

Soil sample boxes were available throughout the year and individual farmers were given recommendations for the best use of lime and fertilizer according to soil tests. Farmers were helped during the year setting up suitable crop rotations, making seeding plans, and controlling various insects and weeds.

DAIRY

Objectives:

1. Emphasize Virginia Mastitis Prevention and Control Program.
2. Increase per cow production.
3. Encourage dairymen to raise all high quality heifers produced.

The meetings were also publicized in radio broadcasts and newspaper articles. Attendance from the county was poor due to the snow and threat of more snow at the time.

A supply of VPI Circular 886, "Field Crop Varieties for Virginia's Piedmont," was distributed to all seed dealers in the county. General distribution was also made of this bulletin along with VPI Leaflet 40, "Here's How to Seed That Pasture" and VPI Circular 533, "For Top Pastures - Top Dress."

Information of the use of Sudan Grass and Pearl Millet for supplemental summer pasture and small grains for fall and spring grazing was distributed to all dairy farmers.

VPI Leaflet 108, "Fertilizer Recommendations for Small Grain in the Piedmont Area", was distributed throughout the county by placing a supply on the counters of fertilizer and seed dealers.

The agents met with G. R. Epperson, Associate Extension Agronomist, and John Derting, Chief of the Soil Survey Party, on February 22 to discuss the preparation of a preliminary report on the soils of Prince William County. Work on this report was started on February 28 with G. R. Epperson, H. C. Porter, Associate Extension Agronomist, all members of the Soil Survey Party, and the county agent participating. The report has not been completed at this time.

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Ten of the yields were measured with five qualifying for producing more than 20 tons of silage per acre. The yields ranged from 17.25 tons to 26.67 tons with an average yield of 21.14 tons per acre. This compares with a record on file in the office of corn ensilage measured on ten farms in 1928 which shows an average of 12.92 tons per acre with yields varying from 6.52 tons to 18.88 tons. Several fields have been measured for yield of ear corn, but the results of moisture samples have not yet been returned. The recommended practices for making higher yields of ear corn and corn silage were publicized through the use of radio broadcasts, newspaper articles, and distribution of VPI Circular 541, "Why Settle for Less? - 100 Bushels Per Acre", and VPI Circular 871, "Corn for Silage."

Recommendations for control of chickweed in alfalfa were distributed in January. Alfalfa weevil control recommendations were distributed in April and September. Most farmers used either the granular heptachlor or heptachlor-fertilizer mixture in the fall of 1960 and were well satisfied with results.

A weed control meeting was held in March. Allen H. Kates, Associate Extension Weed Specialist, discussed the control of weeds in alfalfa, pasture, corn and lawns.

A letter was sent to all farmers announcing the Northern Virginia Forage Conference held at Middleburg in February.

DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION PROGRAM

The Agronomy and Dairy Committees met during the year to discuss the county situation and problems in their areas. Recommendations made by the committee members were used in setting up the objectives for 1961. Committee members assisted throughout the year in carrying out the program. Six adult men leaders helped to make 4-H Club plans and worked with the program during the year.

AGRONOMY

Objectives:

1. Increase average alfalfa yield to 3.8 tons per acre.
2. Have 4000 acres of pasture topdressed.
3. Emphasize the use of small grains, Pearl Millet, and Sudan Grass for supplemental pastures.
4. Increase average corn yield to 70 bushels per acre.
5. Increase average wheat yield to 30 bushels per acre with other small grains increased in proportion.
6. Have five farmers qualify for 20 Ton Silage Club.
7. Have five farmers qualify for 125 Bushel Corn Club.

Extension Agronomy Activities and Results:

A letter explaining the 20 Ton Silage Club was sent to farmers in May with an enrollment card. This was the third year for this project and sixteen farmers enrolled.

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ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

**COUNTY
EXTENSION
WORK**

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service

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1961

Prince William _____
County