

P L A N O F W O R K

1960

Amherst County

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A. FORESTRY

Objectives: To get Amherst County woodland owners to realize the value of properly managing their woodland to promote the maximum desirable growth.

Teaching Methods:

1. Organize Forestry Contest for woodland owners. Practices will include Stand Improvement, Open Field Planting and Thinning.
2. Furnish technical assistance to contestants.
3. Set up community demonstrations to show proper forestry management practices.
4. Through the use of localized news stories for the county paper, inform readers of the potential woodland value increase possible for forestry management.
5. Furnish available publications outlining management practices to land owners.
6. Encourage land owners to participate in ACP forestry practices.
7. Encourage woodland owners to secure the services of Virginia Division of Forestry in marking timber before marketing.
8. Work with representatives of Virginia Division of Forestry, Meade Corporation, West Virginia Pulp & Paper Company and Chesapeake Corporation in their forestry programs in Amherst County.

B. AGRONOMY

Objectives: To get farmers of Amherst County to understand that:

(1) as a result of change in economics (i.e. increase in cost of production and decrease in net returns) the production of row crops should be minimized.

- (2) Row crops should be used only for high return per acre crops, ie. tobacco or truck or for silage and grain for dairymen, or for silage for beef cattle men.
- (3) Feeder cattle can be produced on grass and quality forages alone.
- (4) More tillable land should be diverted to hay and pasture and more poor grazing land and idle land should be diverted to pines.

Teaching Methods:

1. When working with individual farmers, assist them in figuring cost and returns of various crops and enterprises.
2. Through news articles in county paper attempt to get farmers more conscious of the economics involved in crop production.
3. Encourage use of soil test to determine lime and fertilizer needs on each field that has not been tested in the past three years.
4. Furnish all alfalfa growers of the county with MS-105 - Revised, "Control the Alfalfa Weevil."
5. Furnish all farmers of county a copy of "Recommended Variety of Field Crops for Amherst County for 1960."
6. Make available to seedsmen and fertilizer dealers information on recommended varieties and recommended fertilization practices.
7. Encourage dealers to attend area agronomy meetings and assist dealers and professional workers in keeping abreast of the changes occurring in field and crop management.
8. Encourage farmers to make use of ACP B-1 and A-2 practices.
9. Have representative of U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, assist with series of demonstrations using groundhog bombs to eradicate the groundhogs.
10. Set up Pasture Fertilization Demonstration on Hillside Blue Grass pasture.

C. LIVESTOCK

Objective: To get farmers to realize that:

- (1) The production of feeder calves and feeder steers fits the Amherst County farming capabilities.
- (2) More use of the cooperative Feeder Cattle Sales will result in better sales and more profit for all.
- (3) Quality forage is all that is necessary for production of feeder cattle.
- (4) Sheep fit in with a feeder cattle operation.

Teaching Methods:

1. Meeting of livestock producers to:
 - a. Encourage more use of feeder cattle sales.
 - b. Present facts on grades of feeder cattle and how to improve cattle quality.
 - c. Offer general suggestions on sound livestock production.
 - d. Show losses due to inferior grades of feeder cattle.
2. Supply cattlemen with Extension publications pertaining to forage production.
3. Set up pasture fertilization demonstration to show how grazing may be improved.
4. When working with individual farmers, budget the sheep enterprise on his farm in an effort to get more farmers to consider sheep.

D. HORTICULTURE

Objectives: To get Amherst County orchardist to realize that the production and marketing of quality fruit is essential for success in the fruit business.

Teaching Methods:

1. Conduct a Winter Meeting of fruit growers of Amherst and Nelson Counties at which the following topics will be discussed:
 - a. Chemical Thinning of Fruit and Mouse Control.
 - b. Chemical Control of Weeds in Orchards.
 - c. Dwarf Fruit Trees.
 - d. New Varieties of Apples and Peaches.
 - e. Chemical Residues on Fruit.
 - f. The 1960 Spray Program.
 - g. The 1959 Activities of the Apple Commission.
2. Conduct a Summer Meeting and Orchard Tour of fruit growers of Amherst and Nelson Counties at which the following topics will be discussed:
 - a. Effectiveness of the spray program for insects and diseases.
 - b. Prospect for marketing the 1960 fruit crop.
 - c. Proposed activities of the Apple Commission.
3. Make available to orchardists Extension publications applicable to fruit production.
4. Work with representatives of commercial spray material companies in their association with orchardists.
5. Encourage commercial orchardists to participate in ACP practices related to their operation.
6. Secure services of Extension specialists in conducting series of pruning demonstrations.
7. Mail copies of "Garden Suggestions" to interested home gardeners. Mail copies of "Landscape Notes" to interested home owners.

8. Through the use of newspaper articles, inform home gardeners of Extension publications which are available related to garden production, insect and disease control in the home garden.
9. Keep seedsmen, country merchants etc. posted as to recommended varieties of garden vegetables, recommended fertilization practices and recommended insect and disease control practices.

E. DAIRYING

Objective: To get dairymen to realize that milk production is dependent on the TDN consumption regardless of the source of TDN within certain limitations, and that the cheaper source of TDN will result in the greatest net profit.

Teaching Methods:

1. When working with individual dairymen discuss in detail their feeding program and help budget the several sources of available TDN to determine the most economical supply.
2. Encourage dairymen to attend Middleburg Field Day, to attend area Agronomy meetings and attend meetings of local DHIA association to hear talks on forage production.
3. Supply dairymen with recommended variety of field crops for Amherst County and with recommended silage mixtures and other Extension publications related to the production of high quality forage.

F. 4-H CLUB WORK

Objectives: To inform parents of boys and girls of 4-H age of the opportunities available through continued interest and work in 4-H. To help 4-H members to appreciate more the 4-H program and how it can help them to become better citizens in their communities.

Teaching Methods:

1. In addition to the regular 4-H meetings conducted in the schools, organize project clubs in an effort to maintain extended interest in club work.

2. Encourage and assist club members in competing in District and State Contest.
3. Encourage 4-H members to attend and participate in District and State events, ie. Camp, Short Course and Conservation Camp.
4. Organize Community 4-H Clubs.

G. CALENDAR OF WORK

1. December

Meeting of Extension Horticulture Committee
Meeting of Extension Forestry Committee
4-H Club Meetings.

2. January

Meeting of Lynchburg Feeder Calf Producers Association.
Meeting of Extension Forestry Committee.
Meeting of 4-H County Council.
Annual Winter Meeting of Anherst-Nelson Fruit Growers.
In-service Communications Training School.
Meeting with ASC County Committee
Pruning Demonstration
Assist Forestry Contest members with selecting practices.
4-H Club meetings.

3. February

4-H All-Star Banquet.
Tye River Watershed Association Meeting
R. E. Lee Soil Conservation District Meeting.
4-H Achievement Program.
Meeting of Virginia Beef Cattle Producers Association.
Holiday Lake 4-H Camp Planning Meeting.
Middleburg Research Station Tour.
Assist Forestry Contest members with selecting practices.
Set up Alfalfa Fertilization Demonstration.
4-H Club meetings.

4. March

Wool Marketing meeting.
4-H club meetings.
Groundhog bomb demonstrations.
Train 4-H demonstration and judging teams.
Set up pasture fertilizer demonstrations.

4. March cont'd.

Assist alfalfa growers with weevil control.
R. E. Lee Soil Conservation District meeting.
Tye River Watershed Association meeting
Livestock Committee meeting.
Area Soil Conservation Meeting.
4-H Club meetings.

5. April

Front Royal beef cattle research station field day and sale.
BCIA sale - Culpeper.
Training 4-H demonstration and judging teams.
Spring feeder cattle sale.
District 4-H contests.
Robert E. Lee Soil Conservation District meeting.
4-H Club meetings.

6. May

Amherst County Day at Sweet Briar.
Cooperative marketing of graded lambs.
Meeting of horticulture committee to plan summer orchard tour.
4-H Camp planning meeting.
Feeder Pig Sale.
4-H Club meetings.

7. June

Cooperative marketing of graded lambs.
4-H club District Camp.
Cooperative marketing of wool.
State 4-H Short Course.
Alert farmers to be on lookout for tobacco insects and
how to control them.

8. July

Annual summer meeting and orchard tour of Amherst-Nelson
fruit growers.
Institute of Rural Affairs.
Visit cattlemen and dairymen and encourage use of horizontal
silos.
Work with 4-H members on summer projects.
Work with home gardeners in controlling disease and insects.
Encourage planning and planting Fall gardens.

9. August

Improve forage harvest methods through demonstrations and individual personal contacts.
Encourage saving green hay and making silage.
Conduct alfalfa seeding demonstration.
Make available Extension information applicable to seeding pastures and alfalfa.
Extension Agents' Conference.
Visit Forestry Contestants.

10. September

Apple picking demonstrations to show improved method of harvesting apples in order to prevent twig damage and field bruises.
Feeder Pig Sale.
Continued effort to harvest forage to attain the highest quality feed.
Teach selection, grooming and showing of animals by 4-H Club members in preparation for the Lynchburg Farm Show.
Make preparation for the 4-H Club year.
Arrange 4-H schedule.
Teach the selection of calves for Fall Feeder Calf Sale.
Score Forestry Contest.
Yearling Steer Sale.

11. October

Teach selection and preparation of crops and livestock, for the Lynchburg Farm Show.
Complete scoring Forestry Contest.
Annual Fall Feeder Calf Sale.
Forestry Recognition Banquet.
4-H Club meetings.

12. November

Yearling Steer Sale.
Urge farmers to place orders for pine seedlings.
Enroll contestants in Forestry Contest.
Urge farmers to make preparation for wintering their livestock.
Stress the importance of making stock comfortable through the use of natural cover in the case of cattle and plenty of bedding for hogs.
Feeder Pig Sale.
4-H Club meetings.