

III. G. Continued

Community Club. Carol is a 4-H member. Carol and Rosie take music and dancing lessons.

Ed and his wife gave a report on the farm and home operation at the annual meeting of the Southwest Virginia Agricultural Association, held in Abingdon in April. This same talk was given by them at the annual meeting of the Valley-Wide Association of T.V.A. Test Demonstration Farm Families, at Muscle Shoals, Alabama on July 19, 1961.

Farmers and professional workers from 30 states and several foreign countries have visited and studied this operation. It has really served as a test demonstration farm.

III. G. Continued

	1956	1958	1960
Milk	\$3,446	\$11,072	\$17,351
Tobacco	702	3,341	1,284
Lambs and Wool	905	581	622
Land Sale	1000		
Poultry	1687	335	141
Gross Farm Income	\$10,432	\$23,692	\$27,567
Value Capital Investment	\$47,705	\$56,406	\$70,949

The rest of the gross income that does not show was made by extra tobacco, custom work and timber sales not shown in farm records.

The tenant's wife helps with the milking and takes a real interest in the D.H.I.A. records.

Ed's family consists of his wife, Louise, who was a book-keeper before they were married and now keeps the farm records. There are five children; Carol 13; Rosie 9; Bob 8; and the twins, Elizabeth and Rebecca, 4. All of the children are given some responsibility as they get old enough.

The whole family attends church each Sunday. Mrs. Anderson is president of the P.T.A., and a home demonstration club member. Ed is a member of the Washington County Farm Bureau, Washington County Dairy Association, a Director of the Southwest Virginia Agricultural Association, a member of the County Wool Pool Committee. He and his wife both belong to the Three Springs

III. G. Continued

Machinery has been added as needed and includes enough to do the job. Custom work has been done which increased the hours of use and helped defray some of the cost. The machinery inventory value after depreciation has increased from \$5,517 in 1956 to \$13,833 in 1960.

From the three B's, brush, briars and broom sedge, beautiful green pastures have been made. Some of this is blue grass and white clover, and some is Ladino and orchard grass. The blue grass and clover has received about 450 pounds of 0-40-20 for a three year treatment and the ladino and orchard grass about 250 pounds of 0-30-30 annually.

The corn silage acreage has been increased as storage capacity has increased. This has averaged 18-20 tons for the past few years. There is about 30 acres of alfalfa which has yielded about 4 tons per acre. This has been top dressed annually with 400 pounds of 0-20-40 B. The use of a hay conditioner has increased the quality of the hay produced.

There is about 20 acres of poplar, some of it 12"-15". This is a beautiful stand and nearly pure poplar. This has been marked by the foresters and some trees removed. The rest is being left until it matures.

The following table shows the income and indicates the concentration on the milk production in the last few years.

III. G. Continued

All except two or three of these cows are Holsteins. Ed recently purchased a purebred Holstein heifer as a 4-H project for his oldest daughter, Carol. The remarkable thing about this record is that most of the cows are grade. Management, feeding and breeding are responsible for this production. It also should be pointed out that the production was increasing at the same time as the number of cows were increasing.

Ed said that he has added a building or some structure each year since he moved to the farm. The buildings include the milking parlor already mentioned, a 100 ton bunker silo, a tramp barn, a poultry house, and remodeling of the home. This past year the tramp shed was enlarged, a 450 ton bunker silo was built and concrete areas added.

The re-arrangement of the tramp shed, the silo, and concrete slabs were built on the recommendations of Dan Kite, Extension Agricultural Engineer, VPI. The main feature of this plan had the cows on concrete coming into the shed from the parlor and also were on concrete when eating hay. This arrangement tended to keep the loafing area cleaner and dryer. Ed is real pleased with this arrangement. The cows also have free access to the bunker silo and get all they will eat. This arrangement also works real well and takes very little labor in feeding. A number of other farmers visit each month to look at the arrangement.

III. G. Continued

Ed became a Unit Test Demonstration Farmer with the Extension-Tennessee Valley Authority in 1956. This program is a phase of the total program of the Virginia Agricultural Extension Service in Cooperation with T.V.A. Phosphate materials are furnished the farmer at reduced cost by T.V.A. In return, the farmer agrees to keep complete farm records and use new farm practices to demonstrate to other farmers their practical use. These records furnish valuable material for reports such as this and the use of other farmers. Our complete records start with 1956, the first year of the demonstration period.

The dairy unit was actually started on the home farm. A milking parlor was built on the purchased farm with the use of farm labor. The cows were moved here about 1953 and started immediately on D.H.I.A. The cow inventory is as follows:

	1956	1958	1960
Dairy Cows	16	16	31
Heifers	12	22	30

This table shows the increase in cow numbers. Of these, 20 heifers and three cows have been purchased during this period. A good culling program has been followed. This is the milk production record:

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Milk	9042	11043	10643	11960	12243
Fat	355	432	409	459	457

III. G. Continued

owner and agreed to pay the price if it could be extended over a period of years.

In 1951, a farm nearby was offered for sale at auction. The promise of a G.I. Loan was made with a limit to the amount that could be bid. The day of the auction, Ed purchased 85 acres for \$14,000. The next day he made arrangements to pay and was told that the money was not available as the G.I. Loan fund had been used up. This left thirty days for the money to be raised. A local banker found out about the situation and made the loan.

Another set back came in the form of beef prices. Ed purchased some feeders at 25¢ and sold them at 16¢. He said that he did not make enough money that year to pay the interest. The banker again had faith in Ed's hard work and extended the loan.

The last tract of land, 40 acres, was purchased in 1960. This was brush land with some timber. About 10 acres of this was cleared with a bulldozer and is now in good grass. The rest has been cut over and will be put in grass in the future. Ed and the farm help cut this and hauled the logs to a saw mill set up on the place. The lumber was then hauled to a dealer at an agreed price.

III. F. Continued

Through our tours, etc. we have assisted in building 15 silage storage facilities. Most of these have been horizontal type with one tilt-up concrete type.

B. 65 sets of plans furnished.

2. Tobacco Festival

This office worked closely with the Tobacco Festival directors. We were responsible for the livestock and field crop exhibits. There were over 100 livestock exhibits and approximately the same number of field crop exhibits.

3. Holston River Soil Conservation District

The district is publishing a ten year progress report this year. The report will be basically a picture story of the conservation progress for the past ten years.

G. Extension Story

Ed. S. Anderson, Jr., of Bristol, Virginia came back to the home farm after service during World War II with a desire to make farming his life's work. His assets consisted of 14 \$25 war bonds, a heifer, a mule colt, a German Luger and an honorable discharge.

Ed started farming with his father on the home farm. A tract of land consisting of 64 acres was offered for sale. Most folks thought the price too high; however, Ed saw the

III. E. Continued

was one of three animals that made up the Virginia State Junior Guernsey herd.

Eleven market steers were exhibited in the Bristol Junior Market Steer Show and Sale.

Some 38,000 tree seedlings were planted by county club members.

Some of the special activities and events in which club members held or took part in are as follows:

- Bristol 4-H Achievement Day
- Abingdon 4-H Spring Awards Day
- County Beef Show
- County Tractor Driving Contest
- Public Speaking Contest
- Talent Contest
- 4-H Club Camp
- Sheep Shearing School
- Bristol Market Hog Show
- Virginia State Fair
- VPI 4-H Short Course

F. Organizations and Programs Worked With and Results

1. Agriculture Engineering

A. Most of the agriculture engineering report appears under other items of this report. The most significant accomplishment in this area has been in silage storage facilities.

III. Continued

E. 4-H Clubs

Washington County has 24 organized boys 4-H clubs with a total enrollment of 542 members. These 4-H boys completed 506 projects for a 76% project completion. Major 4-H projects included Dairy, Forestry, Garden, Tobacco, Beef, Swine and Farn and Home Safety.

The small number of adult leaders limits the individual attention that the club members receive; however, the accomplishments of these club members are outstanding.

At the monthly club meetings, which are held in the schools, club members are given an opportunity to develop leadership as well as to learn. Special county-wide 4-H meetings are held in such projects as rural electric and tractor maintenance, so that special instructions can be presented.

The County club members placed first in soils judging, first in tractor driving, second in dairy judging and third in livestock judging, in the 15 area county 4-H district contests.

Thirty-five dairy animals were exhibited at local fairs by 4-H club boys. Four boys exhibited dairy animals at the Virginia State Fair. Buddy Mitchell, a 4-H member from Abingdon, exhibited his Junior yearling heifer at the National Dairy Cattle Show, at Waterloo. Buddy's heifer

III. D. Continued

List of Demonstrators:

Name and Address:	Size Farm:	Major Enterprise:	Term Date:
John Bishop, Glade Spring	284	Beef cow, yearling	7/1/63
D. J. Campbell, Abingdon	390	Beef cow, sheep	7/1/63
E. S. Anderson, Jr., Bristol	149	Sheep, Grade A Dairy	2/29/63
Paul Countiss, Abingdon	132	Manufactured Milk	3/8/63
Blair Koller & Son, Abingdon	228	Grade A Dairy	2/25/62
John Copenhaver, Sr., Glade Spring	136	Grade A Dairy	2/25/62
C. H. & J. C. Combs, Bristol	373	Steer, Cow & Calf	8/17/64
Guy & J. B. Clark, Alvarado,	267	Manufactured Milk	9/21/64
Robert C. Wolfe, Meadowview	170	Grade A Dairy	2/25/62
E. E. Terry, Glade Spring	210	Grade A Dairy	1/63
C. G. Dishman, Bristol	185	Poultry, Mfg. Milk	4/17/66
Roy Roe, Meadowview	92	Manufactured Milk, Hogs	4/17/66
J. H. Combs, Abingdon	111	Manufactured Milk	4/17/66
R. C. Roberts, Abingdon	195	Manufactured Milk	9/20/66
Demonstrators who completed program:			
Harry Orfield, Meadowview	86	Grade A Dairy	
Leighton Sprinkle, Abingdon	172	Sheep, Cow & Calf	
H. H. Campbell, Glade Spring	72	Sheep, Steers	
E. F. Davenport, Abingdon	170	Sheep, Grade A Dairy	
W. M. McCall, Abingdon	107	Grade A Dairy	
Robinson Orr, Glade Spring	121	Sheep, Manufactured Milk	

Tobacco is the supporting enterprise for each of the Unit Test Demonstration farmers.

III. D. Continued

The UTD program has been an excellent proving ground for improved farm management practices as well as proper fertilizer usage. These farms have been valuable as a teaching tool for all farms in the county.

E. S. Anderson, Jr., who has been a demonstrator for 5 years, presented a report on the progress of his farm under the UTD farm program at the Southwest Virginia Agricultural Association meeting. The director of the TVA Agricultural Relations Branch requested that he give this same report at the Valley-Wide Association. Anderson also was requested to present this program to the directors and division heads of TVA. A report of this farm is found as the Extension story at the end of this report.

Results:

- a. 8 persons attended the Valley-Wide UTD Association meeting.
- b. 7 UTD farms on IBM farm records.
- c. 20 persons attended the Southwest Virginia Agricultural Association meeting.
- d. 2 4-H club members attended the Natural Resource Conference.
- e. Preliminary data collected for rapid adjustment farm.
- f. One special demonstration placed on each farm.
- g. 161 tons of UTD fertilizer used.

III. C. Continued

letter had been sent to all farms in the fall of 1960 but since little weevil damage had been experienced during the summer of 1960, very little acreage was treated.

During this fall a circular letter was sent to all alfalfa producers showing the recommended treatments. Also each dealer was given a copy of the letter. Over 80% of the alfalfa has been treated this fall.

Miscellaneous Agronomy:

- a. Complete soil test given to all ACP applicants and recommendations given by County Agent's office. (1540 soil tests sent in.)
- b. 100 tobacco disease specimens identified.
- c. 3 news articles prepared on tobacco plant beds and 4 radio broadcasts.

D. Unit Test Demonstration:

A close review of the test demonstration program was undertaken during the year. An effort was made to make selections of new demonstrators to more adequately represent the agriculture of the county. There had been a shift in past years of some of the demonstrators into Grade A dairy operations and as a result the UTD program had an excess of grade A dairy farms and a shortage of manufactured producers represented. Four farms were added to the program during the year and all of these produced manufactured milk. One additional farm is being studied that will represent the beef steer operators.

III. Continued

C. Agronomy

What was Attempted and Results:

There was a definite lack of knowledge on the part of the retailers concerning the chemicals they were selling for weed control and insects, as well as recommended varieties of seed. It was felt that more farmers could be reached through these individuals than through any other program and that the dealers could strengthen other educational programs to be undertaken. A meeting of these dealers was called for mid-winter before they bought their supplies. A representative from the Agronomy department was invited to discuss varieties, Entomology department to discuss insecticides and a Plant Pathologist to discuss weed control. The program was very successful and encouraged dealers to call the office when a doubt arose concerning the proper use of a chemical or insecticide. In addition to this, 3 weed control demonstrations on corn were established using Atrazine as a pre-emergency spray for the control of giant fox tail and other grasses. Also, one plot of minimum tillage corn was established. Thirty-five farmers attended a tour and over 175 individuals visited the plots on their own.

The alfalfa weevil struck the county a very damaging blow this year. Close to 30% of the first cutting of alfalfa was lost and many of the new stands killed. A circular

III. B. Continued

2. The Feeder Pig Sale Association became firmly established during the year with second and third sales. One sale was held during the spring (500 pigs sold) and one in the fall (1000 pigs sold). The main educational problem was that of showing the necessity of vaccination by a veterinarian for cholera and erysipelas. This at first threatened to kill the sale, however, after three meetings with the directors and producers this phase was explained and well accepted by the consignors. The future development of this organization could mean a valuable source of income to our low income farms since 2 - 4 sows could be raised with the existing resources available. The marketing situation in the past had held back the development of this enterprise.

3. Miscellaneous Livestock Work

- a. 405 calves sold through organized sale.
- b. 3 Breed Association sales assisted.
- c. 2 commercial purebred ram sales assisted.
- d. Assist county wool pool with sale and help it combine with Sullivan County, Tennessee.
- e. Enrolled one producer in "Returns Per Ewe Contest".
- f. Placed 10 registered sires for livestock improvement.
- g. Selected foundation stock for establishing a registered Suffolk flock. (No source was available for commercial breeders desiring Suffolk rams.).
- h. 2 herds added to BCIA performance testing program.

III. A. Continued

The results of such tours are hard to evaluate but about 15 silage feeding arrangements have been built and designed from arrangements seen on the tour and most of these have been the horizontal type.

4. Miscellaneous Dairy Work

- a. 56 DHIA members
- b. 4 owner sampler members
- c. 10 dairy club programs presented
- d. 12 plans furnished for buildings
- e. Assist with State Holstein Sale and Tri-State Guernsey Sale

B. Livestock

What was Attempted and Results:

Beef cattle, sheep and hogs are raised on about 50% of the county farms and are often entergrated with a manufactured milk operation. The educational programs for these groups are based around sale organizations and the use of special educational programs, such as rabies control programs, foot rot, demonstrations, etc.

1. Assistance was given the county officials in obtaining the services of professional trappers through the State Public Health Department to reduce the population of foxes in the county to reduce the incidence of rabies. An informational program was organized to educate the land owners on the purpose of the program.

III. A. Continued

has been well received and much less complaints have been received on mastitis from the dairymen. Mastitis is still one of the major dairy problems, but the producers have a better understanding of what causes it and are using improved methods to combat it.

2. An effort was made by personal contact to establish 5 owner sampler records on manufactured herds in different parts of the county. It was felt that these farms would serve as demonstrations and could be used to further "sell" the program.

Three such farms have been established and numerous farms have shown an interest in the program. This approach seems to be paying off.

3. The many varied systems of forage handling systems available was causing dairymen to be confused as to which was the most appropriate for his own farm. A tour for the county dairymen was planned with the local power supplier to be host for lunch. Later the group included in the tour was expanded to include 16 Southwest Virginia Counties.

The tour included 4 stops in the county. The silage handling systems at these stops were horizontal silo with self feeding and loose housing, up-right tub silo with automatic unloading and feeding with loose housing and up-right silo with hand unloading and auger feeding. The cost figures on the construction for each of these arrangements were mimeographed and given to each of the farmers on the tour. About 150 persons attended.

II. Continued

considered commercial farms and dairying, both grade A and manufactured milk, is the basic enterprise on 60% of these. Tobacco is a supplemental enterprise.

III. MAJOR COUNTY PROGRAMS

A. Dairying

The monthly meetings of the Washington County Dairy Club is used to furnish the educational program for the grade A producers. This club is made up mostly of DHIA members; however non DHIA members attend regularly. Average attendance is about 30 and programs were held on proper feeding, breeding and management of dairy herds. Educational material is sent to the 83 grade A producers each month.

The educational program for manufactured milk producers is somewhat less organized with more reliance placed on circular letters.

What was Attempted:

1. Reach 100% of producers with mastitis material prepared by the dairy department.
2. Initiate owner sampler record keeping on manufactured herds to improve production.
3. Improve dairymen's knowledge on different systems of forage feeding, particularly silage.

Methods and Results:

1. The mastitis pamphlets prepared by the dairy department were mailed to almost 1300 persons each month. This material

I. PERSONNEL

There were no changes in the county Extension Staff during 1961. W. H. Groseclose, County Agent, J. W. Derting, Assistant County Agent, and Jacqueline A. Richardson, Extension Secretary.

II. AGRICULTURAL SITUATION AND TRENDS

The agricultural situation and trends have changed very little in the past 5 years. The County's economy is based primarily on agriculture with some industrial employment from Bristol, Abingdon, Saltville and Damascus.

There is a large number of part time farmers (45%) that are employed in these industrial areas.

Tobacco remains the major source of income (50%) with dairy-farming showing a steady increase (20%). Beef cattle enterprises have shifted in a small degree from steer operations to cow and calf. Swine operations show indications of expanding more toward feeder pig production with the successful establishment of a feeder pig sale association.

A few commercial layer operations are prosperous but the 6 hatching egg operations are suffering along with the rest of their type in the nation.

Sheep enterprises are at an all-time low and there is little to indicate they will increase.

The county's agriculture is still made up of small farms (73 acres average). About 50% of all the farms could be

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ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

**COUNTY
EXTENSION
WORK**

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service

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Title

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1961

WASHINGTON

County