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COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE WORK
IN
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

Virginia Polytechnic Institute &
U. S. Department of Agriculture,
Cooperating

EXTENSION SERVICE
County Agent Work

PLAN OF WORK
1961

COUNTY

Amelia

NAME

J. L. Dickson
Local Farm Agent

DATE MAILED

March 14, 1961

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COUNTY SITUATION

Amelia County, which is known strictly as an agricultural county, is located in the Southside Virginia region.

Its boundaries join counties of Chesterfield on the east, Nottoway on the south, Nottoway and Prince Edward on the west and Powhatan on the north. Our river and many creeks and ponds flow through its area.

Most of the land in the county is on gentle to steep slopes and require soil and water conservation practices to obtain the best results.

There are recommended practices for each farm that would check erosion and the waste of soil, water and plant food. If each farmer would take advantage of the soil technician's services and make a soil and water conservation plan for his farm, a many wasted dollars would be saved each year.

The principal type of farming in this county is tobacco and milk production. About 50% of the total income is derived from 1,725.58 acres of tobacco. Out of the total acreage stated, about 1,012.58 of flue cured was harvested, 385.53 acres of dark fired was harvested and 327.28 sun cured harvested.

The soil and climate condition is favorable to the production of many crops and livestock. The problems resulting from the loss of soils, depletion of soil through erosion and leaching, is found in the section where tobacco is grown as the main source of income. We find these damages prevalent when land is continuously planted in row crops without following sound soil and water conserving practices.

In keeping with soil and water conservation, a combination of good

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soil conservation practices are needed. These practices is properly carried out from the recommended planning of the soil technican, will check erosion and the waste of soil, water and plant food.

Poor soil produce poor people, which support poor homes, churches and schools. This county is a rural agricultural region of the state of Virginia which makes livelihood entirely from farm products and therefore must resort to major conservation practices if we are expected to maintain higher standards of living.

II. COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD OFFICERS

PresidentMr. William RoyallMannboro
SecretaryMrs. R. H. Hicks.....Amelia
Treasurer Mr. William WilkersonAmelia

III. COUNTY JUNIOR 4-H COUNCIL OFFICERS

PresidentMarion E. CraytonMannboro
Secretary.....C. ARcherAmelia
Treasurer.....Mr. C. W. GilesMannboro

IV. COUNTY EXTENSION ORGANIZATION

A. County Agricultural Advisory Board -----59

a. Men32
b. Women27

B. County Agricultural Advisory Board Committees

1. Livestock
2. Agronomy
3. 4-H
4. Community
5. Adult Training
6. Demonstration
7. County Fair

C. County Junior 4-H Council

1. Members	190
a. 4-H Boys.....	77
b. 4-H Girls	113
c. Men	1
d. Women Leaders	10
e. Junior Leaders	3

V. COUNTY AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS (NEGROS)

Operators	455
Full Owners	331
Part Owners	72
Tenants	52
Croppers	20

A. No. Acres of Land In Farms

Operators	25,635
Full Owners	18,902
Part Owners	4,764
Tenants	1,969
Croppers	707

VI. COUNTY PROBLEMS

1. Insufficient plant food used with most crops.
2. Poor farm and home management.
3. Family income needs increasing.
4. Forestry practices and woodland managements are inadequate.
5. Too few farmers cooperate with agricultural agencies in the county
6. Sanitary facilities need improving.
7. There is a need for more home grown food.
8. Ornamental horticulture needs improving.
9. Plans for construction of buildings are not used by the farmers.
10. The youths are not utilized in family support to the maximum
11. Farm buildings and machines need to be improved.
12. There is a need for water pressure systems.

VII. COUNTY RESULT DEMONSTRATIONS

A. Pasture (permanent)	10
B. " (temporary)	7

C. Corn	4
D. Soybeans	4
E. Tobacco	7
F. Garden	12
G. Hog & Cattle	6
H. Poultry	3
I. Forestry	6

VIII. AMELIA FOREST LAND FACTS (1945) SUBJECT TO CORRECTION

<u>Total Land Area</u>	<u>Total Forest Area</u>	<u>Forest Area</u>	<u>Farm Forests</u>
<u>Acres</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Acres</u>
234,300	168,400	72%	95,915

IX. NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF ALL DEMONSTRATORS

A. PASTURE (permanent)

Lawson Archer	Route 3	Amelia
C. A. Scott		Mannboro
F. W. Barley	Route 2	Amelia
Grace King		Mannboro
Frank Jackson		Mannboro
William Royall		Mannboro
Edwin Scott	Route 1	Amelia
Ortha Stokes	Route 1	Amelia
Conrad Harris	Route 1	Amelia
W. E. Harris	Route 1	Amelia

B. PASTURE (temporary):

Homer J. Thompkins	Mannboro
Waverly Hawks	Mannboro
C. W. Giles	Mannboro
Robert Scott	Church Road
Lester Randell	Jetersville
Henry A. Foster	Jetersville
James Foster	Jetersville

C. CORN

George Brown	Mannboro
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C. CORN cont'd

Frank Jackson		Mannboro
F. B. Tyler	Route 4	Amelia
Franklin Scott	Route 1	Amelia

D. SOYBEANS

Granville Harris	Route 3	Amelia
William Royall		Mannboro
George Tucker		Jetersville
C W. Giles		Mannboro

E. TOBACCO

George Tucker		Jetersville
C. W. Giles		Mannboro
William Royall		Mannboro
Frank Jackson		Mannboro
Grace King		Mannboro
Homer J. Thompkins		Mannboro
George Brown		Mannboro

F. GARDEN:

Queen Jackson		Mannboro
Grace King		Mannboro
Virginia Stokes	Route 1	Amelia
Marie Coleman	Route 1	Amelia
Ellen Scott	Route 1	Amelia
Mrs. C. T. McGhee	Route 2	Amelia
Mrs. Roger Hicks	Route 4	Amelia
Fannie Hawks		Mannboro
James Johnson	Route 1	Amelia
Pearl Clay	Route 1	Amelia
Lawson Archer	Route 3	Amelia
Mr. & Mrs. Ortha Stokes	Route 1	Amelia

G. HOGS & CATTLE:

Lawson Archer	Route 3	Amelia
William Royall		Mannboro
William Warren	Route 2	Amelia
F. B. Tyler	Route 4	Amelia
Homer J. Thompkins		Mannboro
F. W. Barley	Route 2	Amelia

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H. POULTRY:

Mrs. C. T. McGhee	Route 2	Amelia
Mrs. Willie Hill		Jetersville
Mrs. Daisy Scott	Route 1	Amelia

I. FORESTRY:

F. W. Barley	Route 2	Amelia
Lawson Archer	Route 3	Amelia
C. W. Giles		Mannboro
William Royall		Mannboro
George Tucker		Jetersville
Lewis Anderson		Jetersville

I. COUNTY-WIDE ACTIVITIES

1. Two Leader Training and 4-H Junior Council meetings.
2. Forestry meeting in January and February.
3. Church ground and cemetery beautification meeting.
4. Field meeting at pasture demonstration at proper stage of development.
5. Farm and Home Tour in July.
6. Tour of pure bred swine projects.
7. Held meeting at Farm and Home Unit Demonstration.
8. Held meeting in Improvement Community.
9. Held meeting at sweet potato projects

4-H CLUBS

1. Observe National 4-H Club Week.
2. Held Rural Life Sunday Program.
3. Held two 4-H Junior Council meetings
4. Held annual 4-H Club Picnic.
5. Held 4-H Achievement Program.
6. Send delegates to 4-H Short Course at Virginia State College.
7. Send delegates to 4-H Wildlife Conference at Va. State College.
8. Held "Miss 4-H Contest".

XI. PROJECT ACTIVITIES

A. Management on the Farm

1. Objectives: To create interest and understanding of the value of farm record keeping and good management practices.
2. Methods to be used:
 - a. Mass media.
 - b. Personal contacts.
 - c. Utilization of 4-H Clubs to reach adult members of the family.
 - d. Give publicity to benefits and advantages of good farm records and management.
 - e. Specialist help will be utilized to the maxium in setting up a management program for the county.

B. Corn Production and Utilization

1. Objectives: To encourage farmers to continue increasing the yield of the corn and keep them aware of the importance of bigger yields of fewer acres.
To assist corn growers in the proper utilization or marketing of their corn in order to receive maxium returns.
2. Methods to be used:
 1. Use members of the Agronomy Committee in disseminating information to the growers.
 - b. Encourage soil testing of corn land.
 - c. Give to the farm people current information on marketing

and utilization of corn which is put out by the U.S.D.A. Marketing Service, the State Department of Agriculture and other outlook publications.

- d. Encourage all corn growers to use adopted seeds and recommended amounts of fertilizers.
- e. Give publicity to ways corn growers can apply new technology to improve their efficiency.

B. Educational Activities:

- a. discussion at meetings.
- b. circular letters.
- c. personal visits.
- d. field meetings.

C. Pastures

1. Objective: To encourage the development on each farm a pasture with the recommended seed mixtures and proper cultural managerial practices where needed.

2. Methods to be used.

- a. In consultation with the County Advisory Board and Agronomy Committee, continue pasture demonstrations in each of the three county districts.
- b. Provide proper information and procedure for developing good pastures and a year round feed program.
- c. Supervise the development and maintenance of the pastures closely enough to see that procedures are followed.
- d. Hold field meetings
- e. Encourage farmers to utilize cost-sharing aid from A.C.P.T
- f. Give publicity to fall and winter pastures.

3. Educational Activities:

- a. field meetings.
- b. personal meetings.
- c. circular letters.
- d. general meetings.

D. Soil and Water Conservation

1. Objectives: To promote greater participation in Soil and Water Conservation program and in turn, produce more and better crops and a better profit.
To assist farm families in establishing agronomic practices on the farm which minimize soil erosion in cooperating with the soil conservation Agency in the county.

2. Methods to be used:

- a. Work with farmers who are now cooperating with the soil and water conservation program and give information on its importance.
- b. Hold field meetings at farms where a good program is being carried and point out the advantages.
- c. Work very closely with the local soil conservation Agent.

3. Educational Activities:

- a. press release.
- b. general meetings.
- c. personal visits.
- d. farm tours.
- e. field meetings.

E. Small Grains

1. Objectives:

- a. To encourage more farmers to seed more oats and rye.
- b. To encourage more farmers to apply fertilizer to small grain.
- c. To encourage more farmers to clean, treat and use better seeds.
- d. To encourage at least five farmers to seed winter pastures according to recommendations.

2. Methods to be used:

- a. Give publicity to the seeding of winter and spring oats and seeding rye.
- b. Held field meetings at proper stage of development.
- c. Emphasize recommended practices, especially fertilization and good seed.

3. Educational Activities:

- a. circular letters.
- b. field meetings.
- c. demonstrations.
- d. personal visits.

F. Forestry

1. Objective: To initiate a program to get more farmers and 4-H Club members interested in forestry as a necessary part of the farm program and to create interest in the conservation of forestry products for future generations.

2. Methods to be used.

- a. Forestry work will be done by the Agronomy Committee
- b. In consultation with farmers and forester, set up recommended practices according to present and future needs.
- c. Encourage 4-H members and adults to plant more pine seedlings.
- d. At proper stage of development, hold field meetings.

3. Educational Activities:

- a. discussion at general meetings,
- b. circular letters.
- c. forestry demonstrations.
- d. personal visits.

G. Livestock

1. Objectives: To promote a sound livestock program utilizing desirable type animals based on an adequate agronomic program. To encourage proper utilization and marketing of livestock.
2. Methods to be used:
 - a. Intensify educational work on breeding, purchasing and management.
 - b. Do educational work on diseases and parasite control.
 - c. Encourage expansion of the different livestock units when there is an agronomy program on the farm sufficient to support such activity.
3. Educational Activity:
 - a. general meetings.
 - b. circular letters.
 - c. personal visits.
 - d. field meetings.

H. Tobacco

1. Objectives:
 - a. To assist tobacco growers in preparing the tobacco for market.
 - b. To assist the tobacco growers in disease control.
 - c. To encourage farm families to soil test tobacco land.
2. Methods to be used:
 - a. Current information on disease control and tobacco rotations will be publicized.
 - b. The value of soil testing will be given to all growers.
 - c.
3. Educational Activities:
 - a. circular letters.
 - b. personal visits.
 - c. sorting and grading demonstrations.
 - d. general meetings.

XII. The Improvement Community

1. Objective: To plan a program and execute the same that will result in improving agriculture and the level of living among the 19 or more farm families.
2. Methods to be used:
 - a. seed bed preparation
 - b. use of good seeds.
 - c. application of fertilizer.
 - d. management.
 - e. Encourage home ground beautification work.
 - f. Emphasize the use of approved plans for construction of new homes and farm buildings.

- 3. Educational Activities:
 - a. community meetings.
 - b. committee projects.
 - c. personal farm visits.
 - d. circular letters.
 - e. community tours.
 - f. County Advisory Board.
 - g. demonstrations.

XIII. Farm and Home Development Work

- 1. Objective: To continue at least eight families in the program for 1961 and assist these families in establishing goals, technique and in evaluating the farm and home operations in order to promote a more desirable farm and home unit.
- 2. Methods to be used:
 - a. personal farm visits to each farm and home at least once per month.
 - b. assist families in establishing goals that will make for a more efficient unit.
 - c. hold group meetings with the families.
- 3. Educational Activities:
 - a. farm visits.
 - b. circular letters.
 - c. discussions.
 - d. group meetings.

XIV. Youth Development:

- 1. Objectives: To assist in providing learning opportunities and practical experience in farming, homemaking and related activity for 4-H youth. To assist the organized young men and women groups in the county.
- 2. Methods to be used:
 - a. 4-H Clubs will be organized throughout the county to provide training for youth.
 - b. career opportunities will be exploited.
 - c. Adult and junior leaders will be utilized to further the youth program.
 - d. information will be organized and presented to young men and women groups in the county.
- 3. Educational Activities:
 - a. monthly meetings.
 - b. counsel meetings.
 - c. contests.
 - d. tours.
 - e. demonstrations.
 - f. circular letters.

IV. Miscellaneous

1. Objective: To plan a program to meet the needs of farm people in all farm activities and execute the same.
2. Methods to be used.
 - a. Analyze the situation at the beginning of each month on current needs and prepare to meet them.
 - b. assist in the planning and in the community improvement program and in the execution of it.
 - c. held discussions, personal visits and send circular letters on timely topics to garden growers and other interested groups.

XVI. Calendar of Work for 1961

A. January

Held Advisory Board Meeting.
 Held Agronomy Committee Meeting.
 Organize material for promoting 1961 Agronomy Program.
 Arrange for sweet potato projects.
 Arrange for meeting on forestry management
 Replace inactive members on Advisory Board.
 Held Leader Training meeting.
 Visit Improvement Community and check on work.
 Arrange for topdressing pasture demonstration.
 Revise mailing list for farm people.
 Held regular 4-H Club meetings.
 Arrange for 4-H members to participate in Livestock Show.

B. February

Held 4-H Council meeting.
 Check on work of demonstration pastures.
 Held regular 4-H Club meeting.
 Work with tobacco growers on plant bed.
 Held meeting emphasizing Agronomy program.
 Send out information on topdressing, small grain and pastures.
 Send letters to parents of 4-H members.
 Submit 4-H enrollment.

C. March

Plan for Rural Life Sunday.
 Check on progress in topdressing, small grain and pastures.
 Arrange for 4-H participation in National 4-H Club week.
 Visit small grain demonstrations, check activities.
 Visit and check pasture demonstrations.
 Send letters on timely garden suggestions.
 Have clubs observe National 4-H Club Week.
 Check with Junior Pig Show and Sales project.
 Distribute 4-H record books and project material.
 Held regular 4-H club meeting.

D. April

- Meet with and visit Improvement Community Committee.
- See that proper seed and fertilizer are obtained.
- Work with Soil and Water Conservation groups.
- Work on Water Pressure Systems.
- Letters to 4-H Leaders on work for the month.
- Plan for Rural Life Sunday in May.
- Work with farmers on Farm and Home Development.
- Hold poultry meetings.
- M Meet with farmers on food needs and plan for supplementary feed.
- Hold regular 4-H Club meeting.
- Meeting at Plant Feed Institute demonstration.

E. May

- Select farms for Farmer's Day Tour.
- Check on work of 4-H Pig Show and Sales projects.
- Plan summer work with 4-H club members.
- Observe Rural Life Sunday.
- Work on water under pressure.
- Plan with workers on County Fair.
- Work with Farm and Home development program.
- Hold regular 4-H club meetings.
- Send letters on topdressing corn.

F. June

- Check on 4-H club project work.
- Check on garden project work.
- Make plans for 4-H Annual Picnic with 4-H clubs.
- Complete plans for delegates to State 4-H Short Course.
- Meeting with 4-H Junior Council.
- Follow-up pig show and sales project.
- Follow up Agronomy program work
- Visit Improvement Community Committees.
- Have 4-H Tractor Committee meeting.

G. July

- Complete plans for Annual 4-H picnic,
- Visit and supervise 4-H club projects.
- Start work on pastures seeding in August.
- Start work on winter gardens.
- Follow up livestock and crop demonstrations.
- Follow up pig show and sales work.
- Complete plans for delegates to State Wildlife Conference.
- Check on soil and water conservation work.
- Check poultry work.
- Meet with farmers on fence post treating.

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H. August

Check pastures for proper management.
Send delegates to Wildlife Conference.
Visit and supervise 4-H Projects.
Visit poultry projects and give instructions.
Work on fall and winter gardens.
Take Annual Leave.
4-H Pig Show and Sale.

I. September

Plans for closing project record books.
Circular letters on winter cover crops.
Attend State Advisory Board meeting.
Assist in plan for county Fair Exhibits.
Arrange for grading demonstrations on flue-cured tobacco.
Alfalfa seeding work.
Winter pastures.

J. October

Send out fire prevention material and emphasize value of fire insurance.
Plan for forestry meeting.
Attend Agent's Annual meeting.
4-H Junior Council meeting.
Check 4-H Club project records.
Small grain seedings.
Regular 4-H meeting.

K. November

Closing out years book
Complete annual reports.
Hold Extension Achievement program.
Check on Improvement Community work.
Check on water under pressure.
Check winter pastures.
4-H Reorganization.
Mee Meeting of Agronomy Committee.

L. December

Meeting of county Advisory Board.
Hold meeting with 4-H leaders.
Hold meetings on new farm program.
Hold meeting on winter activities.
Check winter pastures.
4-H Reorganization.
Community Club meetings.
Hold meeting with Advisory Board Committees.